Oct 47

DUN'S REVIEW

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OCTOBER 1947

MIAMI UNIVERSITY

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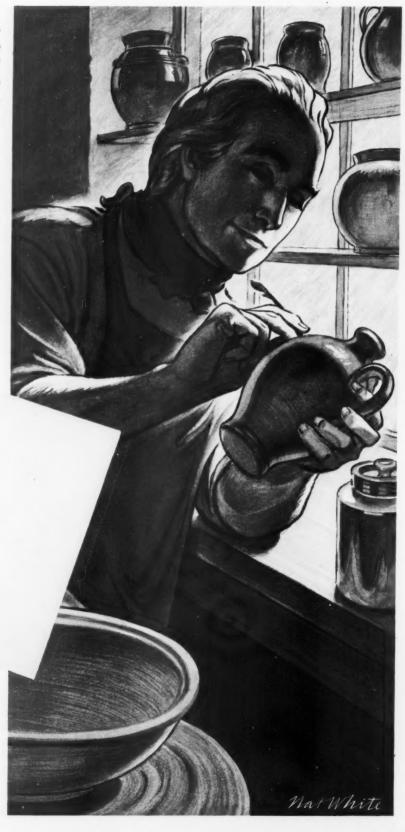
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PHENOLIC RESINS THAT FIT THE JOB

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MY BUNKIE

HE lure of California gold dug snaky wagon trails across the plains west of the Mississippi in 1849 and 1850. Indian territory was deeply invaded by migrating pioneers who slaughtered the red man's game in alarming quantities. Hunger and starvation haunted the Indians. Treaties were made and broken.

Early in 1864 real trouble broke out, bloody and barbaric engagements followed. The warriors of brave and proud Indian leaders like Red Cloud and Sitting Bull accounted for the scalps of many lusty, hard-fighting U. S. Cavalrymen. Custer's battalion at Little Big Horn was annihilated by Crazy Horse and Gall in the campaign of 1876, followed by the harassing retreat of Chief Joseph through Idaho, Wyoming, and north through Montana to within sight of the Canadian Border. Here, General Nelson A. Miles fought a fierce and bloody battle with heavy losses. Siege operations finally overpowered Chief Joseph and after five days he surrendered to Miles winning high praise from his victor.

Rightly or wrongly, with the quieting of hostilities, the Government saw fit to establish the Indians on reservations. Gone now was the freedom of the plains, the sport of the huntsmen, the whistle of wind past their sleek coppered bodies as they bent low over thundering painted ponies.

The march of progress had taken its toll.

To-day, as luxurious crack trains sweep over the plains and four-engine airliners cast their moving shadow over barren mountain tops and lush valleys, perhaps the spirit of brave red men and the spirit of brave white men join hands on some lofty bluff and smile quietly at the passing "trail blazers."

CLARENCE SWITZER



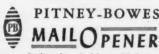
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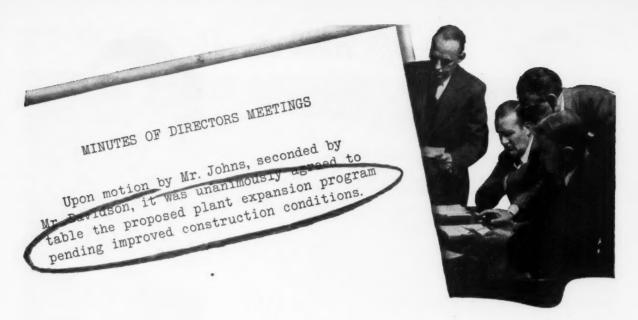
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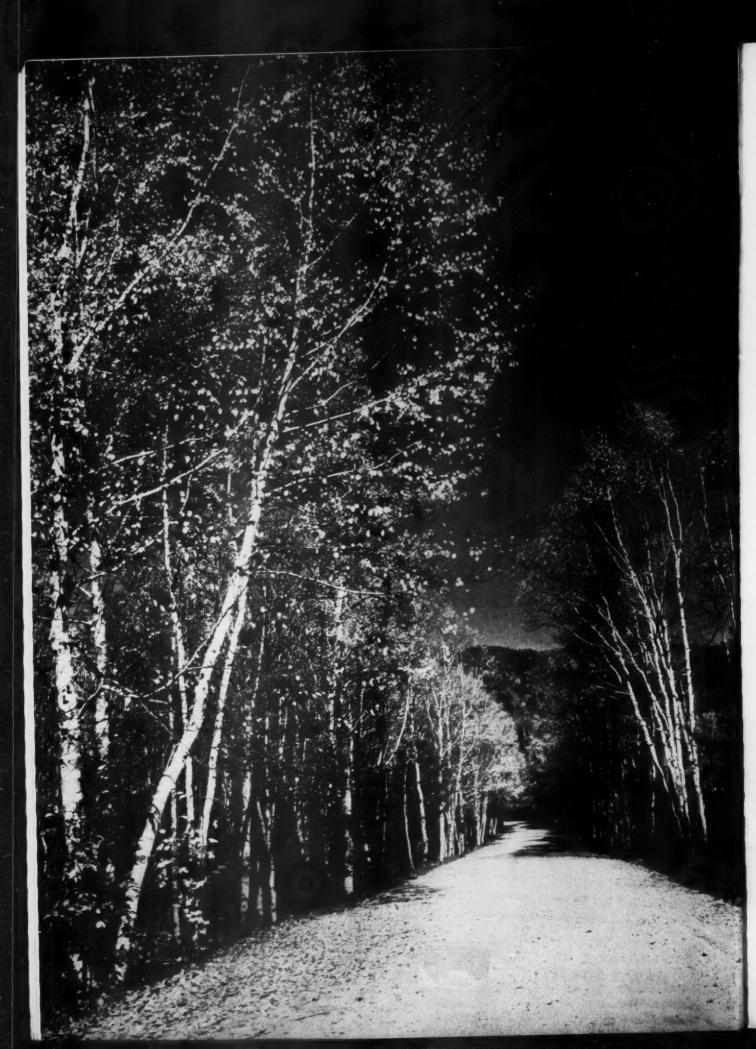
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FACTORIES ALONG THE PASSAIC RIVER NEAR PATERSON, N. J .- CORSON PHOTOGRAPH FROM DEVANEY

HREE AND ONE-QUARTER MILLION SMALL BUSINESSES REPRESENT THE AMERICAN FREEDOM TO BE ENTERPRISING. VIGILANCE TO SAFEGUARD THEIR WELL-BEING IS A PROTECTION TO THE SYSTEM OF INDIVIDUAL INITIATIVE WHICH HAS MADE OUR COUNTRY PROSPER. HERE A PRACTICAL AND FAR-SIGHTED PROGRAM IS PROPOSED, TO INSURE FOR SMALL BUSINESS LONG-TERM CAPITAL, EQUITABLE TAXES, AND COMPETITIVE OPPORTUNITY.

A Three Way Program FOR HELPING SMALL BUSINESS

PAUL G. HOFFMAN

Chairman, Committee for Economic Development President, The Studebuker Corporation

"the home of big business." We do have great enterprises, but we must not overlook the fact that our country might just as truly be called "the home of little business." For out of every 100 of our 3,317,000 business enterprises, 98 employ less than 50 workers each. And most of our large businesses started from small beginnings.

It is because of the importance of small business in our national economy

that the Committee for Economic Development undertook, among other research projects, to study the special problems of small business. The results of this two-year study have been incorporated in a statement on national policy recently issued by the Research and Policy Committee entitled Meeting the Special Problems of Small Business.

Before I touch upon the findings it might be well for me to emphasize why small business is so important to America. It is not alone because it constitutes 98 per cent of all of our business units, although this is important. More important, I think, is that small business typifies the system of individual initiative which has made our country great. A dynamic organism, physical, economic, or political, must grow. It cannot remain static and survive.

The fact that we in America have over three million small business units, each with its individualistic beliefs and

aspirations, is in my opinion a greater safeguard against totalitarianism than possession of the atom bomb. Therefore, we must see to it that our political and economic climate is such that these little businesses retain an excellent chance to survive and to grow.

It is impossible for me to do more in this article than mention very briefly the salient points of the policy statement on *Meeting the Special Problems of Small Business*. Consequently, I hope that you will obtain a copy of the statement, read it in full and study its suggestions.*

Eleven Important Points

Among the points to which I should like to call your special attention are the following:

conomic life is the interdependence of ALL business. The big firm and the little firm, the big industry and the little industry—each needs the other. Each is a customer of the other. Production would break down without big business and distribution would break down without small business.

2. The small business is a manifestation of one of the basic freedoms of American life. This is the freedom to enter or leave business at will, to start small and grow big, to expand, contract—or even to fail. This freedom to be enterprising is an aspect of the economic democracy without which our political democracy cannot exist.

3. One of the strongest features of the American economy is that it has now about 3½ million non-farm business concerns. This means that it has about 3½ million centers of initiative; 3½ million places where experiments may be authorized, where innovations may be started. It is difficult to imagine how a regimented economy with relatively few centers of initiative can compete in dynamic drive and in technological progress with an economy that has several million such centers.

4. The small enterprise gives a man a chance to develop well-rounded business experience because it provides a diversity of work not open to an individual holding a specialized job in a

larger concern. Independence in decisions as well as variety on the job trains the small business man in action and in leadership. In small business more truly than in large, the more of himself, his talents, and energy a man puts into a business, the more he gets out of it.

5. Small business, if healthy, means much to the fabric of American life. Small firms help to keep big firms on their toes. The little fellows frequently force competition in price, design, and efficiency. By introducing new products or services, small business helps development of monopoly.

6. Small local businesses frequently are the mainstay of community developments, new projects, local progress.

7. Small business often has more flexibility than big business; it can get going faster. This was dramatically demonstrated during the war. The small, specialized suppliers often made the output of huge wartime plants possible.

8. Small business has surprising durability. Bankruptcies, on a percentage basis, are insignificant. The number of small enterprises in relation to population remains fairly constant. However, the nature of small business firms has

been changing over the last generation. Due largely to the development of mass production techniques suitable only to large factories, small business has produced a smaller and smaller proportion of the total volume of manufactured goods. Almost simultaneously, the nation has witnessed a big expansion in retail operations, service industries, and places of amusement. These industries are typically small business.

9. One of the disturbing trends in our present economic system is the rapid and seemingly increasing rate at which successful intermediate-size businesses are being absorbed by large concerns. This absorption reduces the variety and enterprise in our whole system. It reduces effective competition for big business—competition which often cannot be supplied by small business, but which can be supplied by intermediate-size business. It deprives many small businesses of dependable sources of supply.

10. On the other hand, the rise of some large industries—automobile, for example—has created opportunities for small business as suppliers, distributors, and service units of every kind.

II. More small businesses were

The problem of procuring manufacturing space for smaller industries has at times been solved by the conversion of buildings formerly occupied by larger industries. These old Amoskeag mills at Manchester, N. H., once were devoted to textiles only. It now houses under one roof a variety of smaller industries, including plants producing wool yarn, paper, electrical equipment, webbing, rayon, and other commodities.

CUSHING PROTOGRAPI



Entron's Nort—A complimentary copy of Meeting the Special Problems of Small Business may be secured by writing to The Committee for Economic Development, 285 Madison Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

started in 1946 than in any previous year. About 650,000 is the estimate. But the boom times of 1946 and early 1047 will not last forever. As the waraccumulated backlogs of demand are satisfied, as the supply of available goods increases, and as competition for markets becomes increasingly keen, the curve of discontinuances and failures mounts. When business activity slackens, losses tend to increase more sharply for little business than for big business. In hard times the rate of failures is greater for small business than for large. A decline in business activity would send many new small businesses to the

That is the picture of small business in America—what it contributes to our economic system and what its problems are. You will agree with CED, I am sure, that everything possible must be done to encourage small business. Therefore, you should be interested in the specific recommendations which CED has made to help solve the special problems of small business.

CED believes (1) that small business must be helped in the problem of management; (2) that some new way must be found to give to little business capital and consideration on taxes; (3) that if we are to keep small business as the fabric of our economic life, we must give our little business men competitive opportunity.

In regard to the management problem, the CED statement points out that more failures are due to lack of skill in running the business than to any other single cause. Therefore, it recommends that more and more manufacturers and suppliers make available special management service to their small business customers. This would include advice on credit policies, on merchandising, and on technical know-how. Trade associations also can make a contribution in this area. Trade associations might devote a large portion of their efforts to programs of management training.

A further contribution toward the solution of that problem can be made by our educational institutions. Our universities, colleges, and secondary schools might offer special courses for careers in small business. And for those unable to go to classes regularly, there might be night classes or extension courses.

To assist in the solution of the fi-

nancing problems of small business, the CED recommends the establishment of capital banks and stresses the point that financing should come from private sources and not from Federal subsidies, direct Government loans, or as the result of unrestricted Government guarantees on commercial loans. The commercial bank is not ordinarily geared to take risks on investments with its borrowers. There is the need, therefore, of a financing agency devoted exclusively to small business to provide little business men with long-term and equity capital.

How the Capital Bank Works

The capital banks the CED recommends would be chartered under the Federal Reserve System and would operate under banking rules adapted for their special purposes. Initially, the stock of capital banks for a given community or area could be subscribed by the banks therein up to a specified percentage of their capital and surplus. In order to enlist broad interest and experience in behalf of the capital bank, business firms and individual investors should also participate. The bank would be empowered to make longterm loans to small and medium-sized firms and to purchase their securities.

As to taxation, the CED recommends reductions and reforms that are beneficial to all enterprise, but which would be especially valuable in removing handicaps that bear most heavily on small business. The most serious financial need of small business is for risk capital and the soundest sources for such capital are individual savings and the plowing back of earnings in the business. If all of our taxes-business and personal-were lower, business would have more money to plow back and there would be more risk capital available. In other words, there would be more investors ready to put their money into some new business firm with the hope of making a return. With present tax rates, there is no point to taking such a risk. You cannot keep much of the profits if there are profits, and you pay all of it if you lose. On taxation, these further recommendations are made:

1. Both corporate and non-corporate (Continued on page 62)

THE COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT HAS MADE RECOMMENDATIONS TO HELP SOLVE THE SPECIAL PROBLEMS OF SMALL BUSINESS. IT BELIEVES THAT SUCH BUSINESS MUST BE HELPED IN THE PROBLEM OF MANAGEMENT; THAT SOME NEW WAY MUST BE TOUND TO GIVE IT CAPITAL AND CONSIDERATION ON TAXES; AND THAT IF SMALL BUSINESS IS TO BE RETAINED AS THE FABRIC OF AMERICA'S ECONOMIC LIFE. LITTLE BUSINESS MEN MUST BE GIVEN COMPETITIVE OPPORTUNITY.



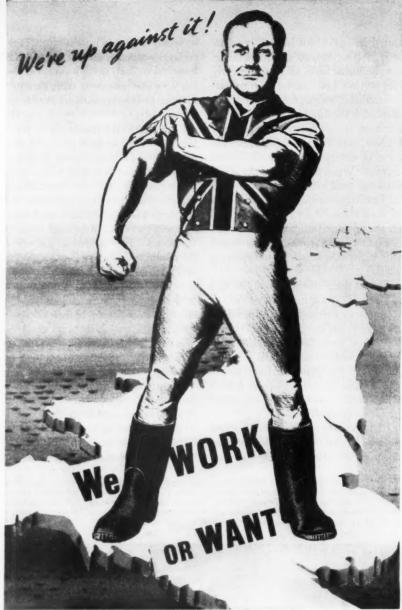
D U N 'S · Page 13

If I did not think the roots of our grave difficulties could be reasonably clearly discerned, this would be the last moment to respond to a request for a commentary upon Britain's industrial position. Events of immense world significance are pressing daily upon us, and no man can with certainty foresee their effect. I must content myself at present with the hope that the developments which will have occurred before this is published will conform with the fundamental needs as I now see them.

COAL claims a controlling priority over all else in Great Britain at the present time. After a really dreadful Winter which involved catastrophic hold-ups in production, we are now in the following position-that the Summer has been devoted to stockbuilding, and industrial stocks are now only three million tons below a workable level needed in the Autumn-a gap that we can now reasonably expect to close; that industry has received perhaps a million tons less than full needs in the Summer months, with the shortage falling more heavily on some industries and firms than on others. Coking coals and small washed grades are the most critical, but this is largely because steel is now being sent practically all it needs: that domestic rationing has now reached a degree of severity that must be very near a maximum; that we do not yet know what will be the final effect on output of the five-day week in the mines, or of the modification to this now proposed.

In fact, therefore, our coal situation is without any question extremely critical, but it is made so by small margins of output. Improvements of as little as 5 per cent in coal availability can make immense differences to the British industrial outlook.

We are in fact at a point at which a change in coal output one way or the other of ten million tons a year—say 5 per cent—can bring with it changes in industrial activity of 25 per cent. Al-



BRITISH COMBINE PHOTOGRAPI

The Battle of Britain — AUTUMN 1947

SIR NORMAN KIPPING

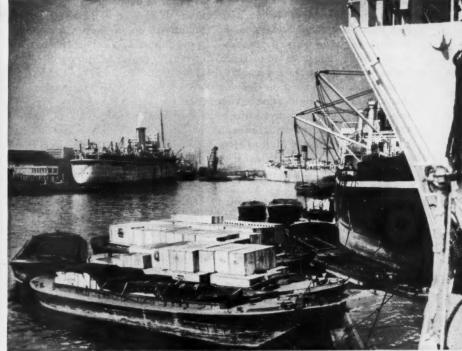
Director-General, Federated British Industries

though the razor edge of this situation is a dangerous and uncomfortable place to be, it has the compensation that even slight improvements will have a tonic effect, and of the possibility, or rather the probability, of improvements I have little doubt. What the response of the

miners will be to the new conditions, of working for a State industry, is itself a matter of absorbing interest. Recruitment to the mines is showing improvement.

But besides these possibilities, there are other directions in which significant





CARGO LINERS LOADING FOR EXPORT-BRITISH COMBINE PHOTOGRAP

"A greater proportion than ever of our manpower and materials will have to be devoted to increasing our exports. The home buyer will have to wait for the satisfaction of his needs. . . . To balance her external position, Britain would need to sell abroad something like 30 per cent of all her output of manufactured goods, based upon the 1938 level, and double her proportion of international trade."

help may be forthcoming. I will mention only one—that the production from opencast workings can without doubt be considerably increased.

Coal shortage, then, is our public enemy number one, and we are not yet out of his clutches. Very many of our other shortages spring directly from coal; steel, bricks, and cement, directly; timber, indirectly. So that when we get the better of our coal troubles, we can expect to start a cumulative series of improvements over all productive industry. Britain's industrial eggs were always in the coal basket. They still are, and still will be, unless it should prove that atomic energy should in due course offer us a second basket by way of insurance.

Ours is a problem primarily of increasing our resources through coal, but also, in the short term, of exercising a stern discipline and discriminating judgment in deploying such resources as we have in materials, in manbower, in capital equipment, and in fast dwindling foreign exchange.

Truly, some of the questions posed

by our situation would tax the wisdom of Solomon. What balance to strike, for example, between the export of capital plant and its use for the long-deferred re-equipment of some of our home industries, in order to put them in a position to make still greater exports. Or again, how to share our limited resources in building materials and labor, between the claims of housing, of repair of bomb damage, of factories, schools, hotels, and offices, farm buildings, and many others, all with a seven-year accumulation of arrears aggravated by very extensive damage.

Problem of Cutting Back

It is small comfort that this latter dilemma may have to be solved by cutting back nearly all building work so as to divert from these desirable but postponable capital projects the coal, materials, and manpower to the overriding purpose of earning or saving dollars. There is the important compensation that such action would at the same time serve a deflationary purpose, but we shall find it difficult indeed to

hold the situation sufficiently in control, and to avoid being forced into a restrictionist philosophy, when every thinking man would agree that this is the reverse of what the world needs to-day.

But though these problems remain, what have we so far achieved? We have in 18 months returned 5,000,000 men and women from the Services and munitions to civilian manufacture. We have built up our forces on production for export, from 250,000 to 1,500,000, compared with a pre-war figure of 900,-000. We have built up our volume of exports to 110 per cent of the 1938 level. The fundamental task of the reconversion of industry is substantially complete. I think we may legitimately record a certain satisfaction in these achievements, while yet seeing clearly how much still remains to be surmounted.

Early this year our Government issued an Economic Survey for 1947. This was a short-term review, disclosing our problems, proposing targets of achievement, and serving the purpose of focusing the attention of all upon the issues at stake and the magnitude of our task. The Survey included one topic of great interest to industrialists everywhere, in announcing the Government's inten-

tion to set up a Planning Board, to be a means whereby industry opinion, from both management and workers, might be sought in the formative stages of national plan-making in time of peace. Industry is seldom backward in asking to be regularly consulted, in claiming that it has something of value to contribute by way of constructive advice to the Government of the day. But with the exception perhaps of M. Jean Monnet's recent move in France, there have hitherto been few serious attempts to concede this claim.

While there are many who profess a dislike for the conception of a planned economy, mainly through fears of the consequences of the plan by way of controls and loss of freedom, there are today, I think, few who do not admit that some form of over-all national plan is both inevitable and necessary. Criticism should be levelled, I suggest, not

so much at planning, as at bad planning. It must be to the advantage of industry to do anything it can to improve the quality of national plans. Accordingly, British industry will co-operate in the new experiment which is to be tried, and will nominate a small number of representatives to sit as members of the Planning Board. These men will carry a heavy responsibility, for although they will act in their individual capacities, and will not commit industry to agreement with the Board's views, they must, if the Board is to be of value either to Government or industry, bring to its deliberations a real knowledge of industrial opinion. The Federation will make arrangements for advisers to assist these men on the different topics that arise.

I look upon this experiment as important not only for the obvious reason, but also because it brings with it the

IK IN BRITISH TEXTILE MILLS-BRITISH COMBINE PHOTOGRAPE

likelihood that a greater proportion of the Government's economic plans will carry the agreement of industry. One may, I think, hope that this may lead to some arrangement whereby industry, or different sections of industry that are affected, will consent to accept the responsibility of itself implementing plans to which it has agreed.

May Provide an Alternative

To have freedom to work out an agreed plan in one's own way, and thus to diffuse through industry the responsibility for its own governance within a national plan, may provide an alternative to the structure of controls that we all hate. I feel, therefore, that we are here taking a step onto a path—no doubt a long, and perhaps a steep and stony path—that may lead to new relationships of the greatest importance to industry and the country.

I have concentrated so far upon conditions on the home front, and it is time to turn to some mention of Britain's external position. The whole world knows full well what our difficulties are, but it is doubtful whether the world yet realizes fully that Britain's position is only a part of the world position. It is impossible to talk of Britain's external position without finding oneself at once immersed in the reciprocal and complementary positions of other trading nations.

The whole situation is for the moment overshadowed by the imminent exhaustion, far sooner than expected, of the American line of credit. It has, as we now see, failed to last long enough to tide us over, until we could rehabilitate our war shattered economy far enough to stand on our own feet once again.

At the moment of writing, I cannot indicate by what means this situation will be met; the repercussions will be world-wide. Britain can no longer continue her dollar purchases on the existing scale, and the Government has

(Continued on page 64)

These textile workers are representative of the 100,000 displaced persons Britain is admitting. They represent also the moral strength of the nation taking them in. "In Britain, the war was a people's war... The people believe in the simple ways of life, in honesty, in lair dealing... And they will work as well as fight to preserve these things."

Should Full Employment be Guaranteed?



"ULL Employment" is almost a magic phrase these days. As a public policy, what would it imply for the freedom of our economic system? How might it be brought about? and at what costs? In a series of three articles, of which this is the first, Mr. George discusses the vital significance of a full employment goal.

EDWIN B. GEORGE

Associate Editor, Dun's Review Economist, Dun & Bradstreet, Inc.

LEAS for full employment sometimes suffer from a fault of the pleaders. They make the issue seem exclusively a moral one. Actually, the concept is cloudy all the way from definitions of the goal to the collateral results of methods used in reaching it. There is not complete agreement on the number and economic status of the people who should qualify under it. Under any definition, prices would have to be paid for every inch of achievement, and with each new inch the amount and character of the price may change.

Such facts do not close the case. Even if it develops that any means comes high, we are still denied the luxury of skipping it, and conceivably the price may be appropriate at every point. But for debate on the subject to be useful, there must first be an agreement that a warm heart is not enough, and that there lies ahead a serious problem of verifying costs and results at progressive levels of achievement. The economic costs of realizing a social ideal are seldom fully foreseen.

The confusion is enhanced by the fact that unemployment has been partly

reasoned and partly romanticized into a test of the worth of our system. It is an awkward test, if only because its causes are so complex. Progress itself is a cause. Growth in a free enterprise economy is largely the product of aggregate impulses. It is, therefore, erratic as to geography, industry, and time; it leaves obsolescent islands of men and machinery behind it; it moves in waves both causing and caused by what we call business cycles.

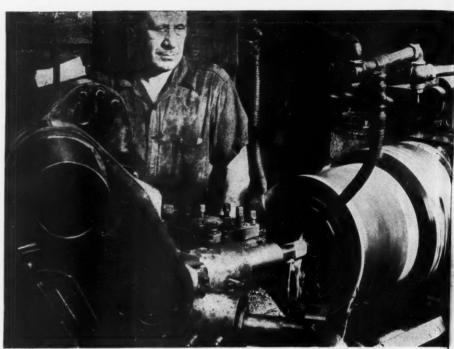
But many students now argue that the trouble is not only cyclical. Lord Keynes and his disciples have shown

the possibility of under-employment "equilibrium," in a modern capitalistic system, owing to failure of investment to absorb the volume of full employment savings. Some students of the subject in this country, led by Professor Alvin Hansen of Harvard, have developed the arguments and evidence to a point satisfying themselves that (failing deliberate government intervention) a lack of investment opportunities or a failure of savings to lead directly or indirectly to the exploitation of such opportunities, will render under-employment chronic. This is the doctrine of stagnationism, of economic maturity, and of sundry epithets that are not always fairly descriptive of this specific world view. The validity of the thesis is now about the warmest subject of controversy in the economic profession,

But it does not pretend to be allencompassing. Activity could still fluctuate around a low "equilibrium" level, due to cumulative processes of expansion and contraction that have been marvelously demonstrated over the past twenty years. This kind of disturbance everyone will recognize as cyclical, although its more familiar labels are prosperity and depression. So at the very outset we are asked by the authorities to cope with two major kinds of unemployment—cyclical and secular.

There are variations of course, due in many cases to the niceties of definition. Some Keynesians define "full employment" as the point at which workers in general ask for a rise in wages in order to make up for the increased cost of living as employment mounts. More aggressively, Sir William Beveridge would not allow governments to relax their efforts until there were more jobs available than workers seeking them. So-called "statistical unemployment" includes all idle persons who wish to work at prevailing wages. Almost all contestants concede the inevitability of a small (3 to 10 per cent) float of unemployed usually called frictional, and for whom the state would provide in various ways and degrees. Armies are excluded from the calculations as a non-economic function of the state, and seasonal workers are included in the labor force in their sea-

A great number of economists, pos-



MULTIPLE TOOLING-DEVANEY PHOTOGRAM

sibly the majority, reject the basic stagnationist position, especially in its aggressive American garb; in large part, they recognize that many of the separate elements of complete Keynesian thought have existence and could take unfavorable turns, but reject the evidence that they must do so as insubstantial. Pressing the point, many would argue that the prospect of continuous official tinkering with a delicate mechanism, on the strength of continuous theoretical "discoveries," is more alarming than any of the present visible omens of decay.

The "Marginal" Few

It does not follow that those dreading a managed society would ignore unemployment. But there are those who would, except possibly at severe stages, and who do not regard themselves as immoral. They say that misapplied concern over the unemployment of people with a marginal interest in employment, or people of slight competence, could jeopardize the well being of the vast majority who achieve satisfactory adjustments. Their reasoning is that the system by which we all must live may be weakened by drains on its strength in the interests of the marginal few, and that we have lost our sense of proportion. They do not believe

that lasting good can be accomplished by such intervention in any event. Functional disorders are to be expected, and unemployment is one of their symptoms. Relieve it, but by the techniques of relief and not by organic alterations. Clear away impediments to the genuinely free working of our enterprise system, including many of the legislative "reforms" of the past fourteen years, and the older barrier of monopoly.

The maladjustments will work themselves out with only occasionally serious results in a healthy society, and left alone ours will be reasonably healthy. At any rate, they conclude, continuous Government solicitude over results is not going to remove causes, and the principal disadvantage of palliatives in economic life is that in relieving the pain they also relieve the pressures for basic correction. Naturally, they reject "stagnation" as a cause. In case of deep and prolonged unemployment, some members of this school would approve the use of a few institutional supports, but as pulmotors and not remedies.

This argument is an appealing one to many Americans. It will not be developed in detail because of doubt that it appeals to enough of them to make it politically acceptable. Naturally, the advocates of full employment guaran-

tees do not agree. If there is to be a resort to organic analogies, their conception of unemployment as a functional fault in the system causes them to regard corrective efforts as in the interests of all and not the few. However, as will be shown, their diagnosis and remedies may be equally unsatisfactory. The point that does stand is that whatever the frequency, cause, and magnitude of unemployment, our society has accepted an obligation to do something about it. Actually, the ways suggested range from guarantees of an abundant life for every individual to sub-subsistence doles.

It is at least clear that unemployment is no longer a simple tragedy. The pathos in it is still the main strength of most proposals for modifying our economic system, and around it have grown strong and well-developed schools of theory somewhat as commercial marts once grew around pagan shrines. This discussion cannot deal

with so many aspects. It will not even pursue the distinction between cyclical and chronic unemployment. It will talk principally in terms of cyclical movements, but will not lose its pertinence for those who believe that some of the conditions making for future unemployment are chronic. For present purposes it is assumed that remedies need not differ except in scale and frequency of application.

A word on timing. Actually, the issue of guaranteeing full employment is not so important at the moment. The American goose is still air-borne. There are reasons to believe, however, that we have not yet been spoiled by prosperity to the point of expecting another new era. The explosion of 1929 cured us perhaps too well. The ensuing depression impressed us more deeply. Behind the excitement of war-induced full employment, economists have labored and fought incessantly over plans for the more difficult years they

expect to follow. Occasionally their scholarly quarrels erupt into public view, and the strong political appeal of some may even result in the enactment of a law. Such in part was the origin of the Full Employment Act of 1946.

Eager for a Solution

Most of the debates are couched in a professional argot, and when even business pays attention it is usually to stand agape. But we can be certain of one thing. In times of trouble any one of the academic arguments may acquire a vogue, especially if it is fitted out with good catchwords. Both politicians and the people are frantic for solutions, and the economic library is apt as not to become a grab bag for ideas. It is difficult to tell what may emerge next time. The last administration so beset used a truck. Two of the prizes in the haul were the glorification of consumer purchasing power and the strengthening of unions. Actually, there was never the unanimity in the profession on the beauty of these prizes that came to be popularly assumed because of their

The subject of full and sustained employment, rather than recovery from an immediate disaster, is now the center of professional attention. Some are confident that it can be guaranteed without major hazard to other values. Others regard any semblance of a guarantee as incapable of realizing its own objective and as incompatible with our system in any event. A suspicion that the obscure quarrels of the profession may prove to have been laboratory work for a round-house political battle is the main reason for the present discussion.

It is all very perplexing. The vision of full employment is so bright that there seems to be something a little indecent in even raising questions about it. If there are costs, they must in contrast be unimportant, and the man who counts them a little suspect. And yet good students have convinced themselves that behind visible costs lies a lien on many of our liberties, or a serious threat to the productive efficiency and real income of the vast majority. It is at least clear that the issue involves important relative values. We may be

(Continued on page 50)



HOW did the record sales of 1946 affect the financial structure of retalers? What was the result on profits, inventories, long-term debt? Here for 12 lines are 14 clues to the state of retail health. Compiled annually by Roy A. Foulke, Vice-President of Dun & Bradstreet, Inc., these ratios record the financial experience of business concerns since 1931. In the next two numbers of Dun's Review, similar ratios will be presented for wholesalers and manufacturers.



TAKING INVENTORY IN A HARDWARE STORE-CUSHING PHOTOGRAPH

Behind the Scenes

IN TWELVE RETAIL TRADES

LUCTUATIONS in the fourteen important ratios for twelve retail trades during the first full post-war year were among the sharpest that have been recorded since these ratios were first compiled in 1931. The economic developments that occurred in 1946 resulted in a general strengthening of the financial structure of established retail businesses. The necessary changes to a peacetime economy were well advanced by the end of 1945 and further progress in 1946 was rapid.

There are three outstanding features of the "fourteen ratios" for the twelve lines of retail business represented in this study: (1) high net profits, (2) large year-end inventories, and (3) continuation in the liquidation of funded liabilities.

Annual net profits measured by net profits on net sales, on tangible net worth, and on net working capital were well above pre-war levels and for most lines, close to the highest levels yet recorded. Median ratios of these three percentage net profit figures were below the wartime peaks only among retailers of fur garments and men's furnishings. These high profits were the natural result of a huge sales volume and a high percentage of mark-up.

The fact that year-end inventories were heavier is clearly shown by the ratio of "inventory to net working capital." In each of the fourteen lines except retailers of fur garments, the median figure of this particular ratio exceeded the median for the preceding year, and in the case of fur garments the median was only slightly lower than in 1945.

The fact that year-end inventories were larger, is also emphasized by the ratio of "net sales to inventory." Notwithstanding the larger net sales handled during 1946, the median of this ratio was lower in each trade studied

than for 1945. Despite this decline, the ratio remained well above pre-war levels in all lines except women's specialty shops and stores specializing in installment sales.

The median ratio of current assets to current debt exceeded the "two-for-one" traditional relationship for each line. Among retailers in two lines, lumber and lumber and building materials, the median ratio was at the highest level since the beginning of the series.

The median ratio of funded debt to net working capital dropped sharply in the two lines where this figure was studied, namely in department stores and in women's specialty shops. During the war many retailers discharged in full their mortgages and other types of funded debts. Probably never in our history have retailers operated with so few long-term liabilities as they are operating to-day.

Fourteen Important Ratios

Line of Business	(1) Current Assets to Current Debt	Net Profits on Net Sales	(3) Net Profits on Tangible Net Worth	on Net	(5) Turnover ot Tangible Net Worth	(6) Turnover of Net Working Capital	(7) Average Collection Period	(8) Sales to Net Inven- tory	Assets to Fixed Tangible Net Worth	(10) Debt to Current Tangible Net Worth	(11) Total Debt to Tangible Net Worth*	(12) Inventory to Net Working Capital	(13) Current Debt to Inventory	(14) Funded Debts to Net Work ing Capital
	Times	Per Cent	Per Cent	Per Cent	Times	Times	Days	Times	Per Cent	Per Cent	Per Cent	Per Cent	Per Cent	Per Cen
			FO	R 12 RET	AIL TRAI	DES-194	6-MED	IANS A	ND QUA	RTILES	,			
Clothing, Men's	9.36	13.25	33.20	42.25	4.05	5.89	**	10.1	2.0	11.4		35.3	31.0	
and Boys' (107)	3.64	8.06	21.72	29.55	2.65	3.74	**	7.2	6.0	24.8		60.7	66.8	
	2.16	5.18	17.34	18.75	1.84	2.49	**	4.8	19.9	63.0		89.0	115.9	
Clothing,	7.70	9.68	24.28	29.75	3.09	3.63	18	10.1	2.8	12.8		26.1	31.3	
Installment (36)	3.92	7.28	6.18	15.66	1.89	1.91	76	6.6	6.4	21.3		37-3	69.4 130.6	
D	2.53	4.40		9.69	1.47	1.65	118	3.9	15.1	44.3	0	57.2	-	
Department Stores	5.00	8.94	29.11	43.36	4.63	6.81	**	9.0	5.0	19.3	35-7	44.8	40.4	11.9
(354) (See below also)	2.36	5.94 3.86	22.20 16.10	32.10	3.34	5.04	**	6.3	14.9	33.5	49.5 71.6	89.6	75.0	35.4
(See Delow also)				23.04	2.48	3.22		4.7	36.4	53.4				
Fur Cormonts (ac)	6.02	12.42	22.24	25.38	3.63	4.78	**	9.8	2.2	18.1		31.1	56.8	
Fur Garments (29)	2.20	0.88	9.34 2.98	6.60	2.33	3.58	**	5.0	9.6	37·5 69.8		53.2	91.9 167.0	
							**							
Furnishings,	4.84	13.54	32.85	48.03	3.67	6.76	**	10.8	1.5	6.9		32.3 50.8	34.6	
Men's (40)	2.72	7.29 3.25	10.84	10.05	1.67	3.64 2.66	**	5.9 4.5	15.2	40.3		73.4	74-4	
							**							
Furniture (109)	5.12	6.07	20.15	29.58 15.23	3.12 2.18	3.79 2.56	**	7·3 5·0	2.2	20.8		33.4 47.7	30.0 59. 3	
Turment (109)	3.10	3.82	8.66	8.90	1.50	1.91	**	3.7	5·3 25.8	40.2		71.4	87.4	
				-								1	31.8	
Furniture,	7.16 4.34	13.26 7.73	29.60 17.82	32.65 19.08	2.69 1.86	3.08	33 92	6.3	2.6 9.0	14.8 28.5		30.2 46.5	67.1	
Installment (126)	2.48	5.86	12.86	14.00	1.28	1.84	120	4·7 3·4	26.9	58.1		61.8	117.7	
	14.51	16.54	31.21	42.40	3.15		**	7.0	1.6	11.7		41.2	16.8	
Hardware (27)	4.20	11.56	28.42	34.98	2.54	3.97	**	4.6	6.0	25.1		64.1	42.4	
	3.41	7.60	23.00	28.25	1.82	2.28	**	3.8	21.8	39.9		84.9	65.5	
	11.04	9.28	21.49	35.50	3.90	5.97	18	12.8	5.8	7.8		26.4	24.4	
Lumber (80)	5.95	6.66	17.11	20.12	2.36	3.32	27	7.3	14.7	16.0		45.3	56.9	
	3.05	2.95	9.25	14.90	1.60	2.30	40	5.2	32.2	34-4		68.1	89.4	
Lumber and	14.31	12.16	17.80	24.32	2.85	5.16	17	12.4	12.3	4.4		25.5	26.6	
Building Material	6.31	6.35	11.73	16.65	1.83	2.78	24	8.9	19.9	12.2		44.6	46.3	
(50)	3.26	3.84	7.42	12.69	1.33	1.81	27	5.5	36.8	39.9		62.8	88.8	
c1 1/ 1	10.32	10.73	33-75	48.85	10.72	7.36	**	7.4	3.2	11.8		30.6	30.6	
Shoes, Men's and	3.62	3-95	19.77	24.90	4.23	5.05	**	5.6	8.0	43.2		78.1	60.6	* * *
Women's (33)	2.07	3.06	13.10	16.00	2.61	3.22	**	5.2	22.5	63.6		127.8	75.2	1.00
337	4.78	10.96	32.90	39.15	5.24	6.72	**	12.0	4.3	19.6	27.3	38.1	57.2	15.7
Women's Specialty Shops (134)	3.02	5.98	17.36	27.60	3-43	4.71	**	9.0	10.5	41.2	60.1	61.8	86.8	32.8
Shops (134)	2.14	3-57	10.64	17.66	1.94	2.67	**	6.1	24.4	63.0	128.8	93.1	126.4	64.7
DEPAR	TMEN	T STORI	ES—1946,	1945, AN	ID 1944—	BY SIZE	(TANG	IBLE N	ET WOR	TH) CLA	ASSES-M	EDIANS	ONLY	
1946:														
Under \$200,000		8.60	22.85	31.67	2.92	3.70	**	5.4	10.0	26.4	44-5	63.4	51.4	23.8
\$200,000-\$500,000		5-57	24.81	30.26	3.47	4.98	**	6.4	9.2	37.5	49.5	72.2	74-5	23.5
Over \$500,000	2.00	5.38	19.74	32.50	3.76	5.91		7.0	22.2	41.3	58.6	71-4	84.5	21.3
1945:														
Under \$200,000		5.39	16.08	21.68	4.23	5.00	**	8.6	6.6	30.8	41.0	52.3	79-4	28.5
\$200,000-\$500,000 Over \$500,000		3.49	9.67	14.23	3.00	3.75 8.00	**	7.8 9.8	23.6	29.6 46.0	45.8 56.3	47·7 52.6	90.7	37.9 29.0
	2.40	3-54	13.46	10.40	5.00	0,00		9.0	23.0	40.0	50.5	52.0	137.0	29.0
1944: Under \$200,000	2 76	E 42	22.84	32.50	3.25	4.19	**	6.6	9.8	28.0	67.0	63.0	81.3	31.7
\$200,000-\$500,000		5.42 2.81	10.49	13.56	3.43	4.19	**	7.3	8.1	36.6	55.7	59.4	87.4	28.8
Over \$500,000		2.68	9.82	17.61	3.65	6.03	**	9.5	28.8	47.6	70.8	60.5	133.8	34.6
			/										23	

* Computed only for those lines of business in which a

** Not computed; necessary information as to the divi-sion of sales between cash sales and credit sales was avail-able in too few cases to obtain an average collection period which could be used as a broad guide.

which could be used as a broad guide.

THE RATIOS—The data used are based upon a representative sampling with a tangible net worth which only occasionally is below \$50,000.... The center figure for each ratio (in darker type) is the median. The other two figures (in italics) are quartiles; for each ratio they indicate the upper and lower limits of the experiences of that half of the concerns whose ratios are nearest to the median. When any figures are listed in order according to their size, the median is the middle figure (same number of items from the top and the bottom) and the quartiles are the figures one-quarter and three-quarters down the list.

REPORTING CONCENSE—The number in parentheses after

REPORTING CONCERNS—The number in parentheses after the name of the line of business is the number of concerns for which data were available.

COLLECTION PERIOD-The number of days that the total COLLECTION PERIOD—The number of days that the total of trade accounts and notes receivable (including assigned accounts and discounted notes, if any) less reserves for bad debts, represents when compared with the annual net credit sales. Formula—divide the annual net credit sales by 365 days to obtain the average credit sales per day. Then divide the total of accounts and notes receivable

CURRENT ASSETS—Total of cash, accounts, and noies re-ceivable for the sale of merchandise in regular trade quar-ters less any reserves for bad debts, inventory less any reserves, listed securities when not carried in excess of market, and United States Government securities.

CURRENT DEST—Tota! of all liabilities due within one year from statement date including current payments on serial notes, mortgages, debentures, or other funded debts. This item also includes current reserves such as gross reserves for Federal income and excess profits taxes, reserves for contingencies set up for specific purposes, but does not include reserves for depreciation.

PixeD Assers—The sum of the depreciated book values of real estate, buildings, leasehold improvements, fixtures, furniture, machinery, tools, and equipment.

Funded Dear—Mortgages, bonds, debentures, gold notes, serial notes, or other obligations with maturity of more than one year from the statement date.

Inventory—The sum of raw material, material in process, and finished merchandise. It does not include supplies.

NET PROFITS-Profit after full depreciation on buildings, machinery, equipment, furniture, and other assets of a fixed nature; after reserves for Federal income and excess profit taxes; after reduction in the value of inventory to cost or market, whichever lower; after charge-offs for bad delats; after all miscellaneous reserves and adjustments; but before dividends or withdrawals.

NET SALES—The dollar volume of business transacted for 365 days net after deductions for returns, allowances, and discounts from gross sales.

NET SALES TO INVESTORS—The quotient obtained by divid-ing the annual net sales by the statement inventory. This quotient does not represent the actual physical turnover which would be determined by reducing the annual net sales to the cost of goods sold, and then dividing the re-sulting figure by the statement inventory.

NET WORKING CAPITAL-The excess of the current assets over the current debt.

TANGIAE NET WORTH—The sum of all outstanding preferred or preference stocks (if any) and outstanding common stocks, surplus, and undivided profits, less any intangible items in the assets, such as good-will, trademarks, patents, cepyrights, leaseholds, mailing lists, treasury stock, organization expenses, and underwriting discounts and expenses.

TURNOVER OF TANGIBLE NET WORTH-The quotient ob-tained by dividing annual net sales by tangible net worth.

TURNOVER OF NET WORKING CAPITAL—The quotient obtained by dividing annual net sales by net working capital.

- NDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION REMAINED BELOW THE POST-WAR
PEAK ESTABLISHED IN MARCH 1947
BUT WAS ABOUT 80 PER CENT ABOVE
THE 1935-1939 AVERAGE. THE
COST OF LIVING ROSE AS FOOD PRICES
CONTINUED THEIR UPWARD SPIRAL.
BUILDING ACTIVITY INCREASED
CONSIDERABLY. EMPLOYMENT REMAINED AT RECORD LEVELS.



WINSTON POTE PHOTOGRAPH FROM DEVA

HE discouraging reports on Europe's economic condition and the world-wide dollar shortage seem to have had little, if any, effect on business activity in this country. Industrial production remained at high levels during August and the early part of September. Signs of filled pipelines were evident in only a very few instances; order backlogs remained heavy in many of the basic industries.

The total weekly output of the nation's coal mines dropped slightly during August; the demand remained strong. The steel industry, one of the largest single consumers of bituminous coal, continued to schedule output at more than 1.6 million net tons per week, a near peak level. Despite this high level of production, most types of sheet steel remained scarce.

Lack of steel for bodies and body panels slowed down many automotive assembly lines. Output of cars and trucks during the month of August was The Trend

OF BUSINESS

PRODUCTION . . . PRICES . . . TRADE . . . FINANCE

about 20 per cent below the post-war highs established last March and was about even with production in August a year ago. The automotive industry has requested an increase in steel production so that car and truck output may be stepped up to meet the very heavy demand.

Food production remained at record levels. Increased domestic consumption as well as large Government purchases for export have served to sustain the heavy demand for food and food products. Insufficient freight cars seriously hampered crop movements in several areas.

Farm income is at an all-time high and the farmer is in the market for a variety of goods. Manufacturers of tractors, cultivators, combines, and other types of farm machinery continue to work on heavy backlogs of orders.

Commercial and residential construction volume increased substantially during the Summer months. The total dollar value of new nonfarm dwellings begun in August was close to the peak levels established during the building boom of the mid-1920's. Reports from most areas indicate that resistance to high prices of new homes has diminished considerably in recent months.

Industrial Production

Seasonally	Adjusted Index:	1935-1939 = 1	00; Federal Resert	e Bostrd
	1944	1945	1946	1947
lanuary	243	234	160	189
February	244	236	152	189
March	24	235	168	190
April	239	20	165	186
May	236	22	159	185
June	235	220	170	184
July	230	210	172	178
August	232	186	178	- de .
September	230	167	180	
October	232	162	18,	
November	232	168	763	
December	232	163	182	

^{*} Approximation; figure from quoted source not available.

Employment There was only a slight decline in the number of farm workers between July 1 and August 1, largely because of the lateness of the season in most areas east of the Rocky Mountains. Farm employment on August 1 at 11,140,000 (U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics data) was 100,000 higher than a year earlier and the highest August 1 since 1942.

This increase, together with the many thousands of jobs created by the tecent upswing in building and construction activity, has pushed up total employment to record levels. Over 60 million persons were employed in July and the August total is expected to hold close to that figure. The number of persons unemployed continued to represent less than 5 per cent of the total civilian labor force in the country (U.S. Bureau of the Census).

Personal income established a new all-time high annual rate of \$197 billion in July. During the Summer coal miners, steel workers, non-operating railroad workers, and employees in numerous other industries were granted wage increases. Corporate securities continued to yield excellent dividends and rents, interest, and other forms of income remained at a very high level.

Terminal Leave bonds, issued to some 8.5 million veterans of World War II became redeemable on September 2. It was estimated that \$1 billion worth would be converted into cash. If this

The reconstruction and rehabilitation of the devastated areas of Europe make necessary a much higher level of industrial output in those countries than was needed in the years prior to World War II. The bars represent a comparison of curent physical production (March, April, or May 1947) with output in 1937. Data obtained from official and private sources in the various countries represented through the Statistical Office of the United Nations.

Employment



Wholesale Commodity Prices

	Inde	rx: 1926 = 100	; U. S. Bureau o	A Labor Statistics	
		1944	1945	1946	1947
	Ianuary	103.3	104.9	107.1	141.5
	February	103.6	105.2	107.7	public
	March	103.8	105.3	108.9	149.5
	April	103.9	105.7	110.2	147-7
^	May	104.0	106.0	111.0	146.9
	lune	104.3	106.0	112.9	147.5
	July	104.1	105.9	1247	150.8
	August	103.9	105.7	121.1	152.9*
	September	104.0	105.2	4.0	
	October a	1041	1779	134.1	
	November	104.4	106.8	139.7	
	December	104.7	107.1	140.9	

[·] Approximation; figure from quoted source not available.

money were spent during the remaining four months of 1947, retail sales could be increased by as much as 2.5 per cent.

· New series.

Despite record high wages and salaries, it was reported that many people were beginning to feel the pinch of high prices. The family food bill continued to account for an abnormally large portion of the average family's expenditures. Reports indicate that rising food prices have influenced many people to postpone purchases of automobiles, refrigerators, and other such items. However, the heavy backlogs of orders for most durable goods are expanding.

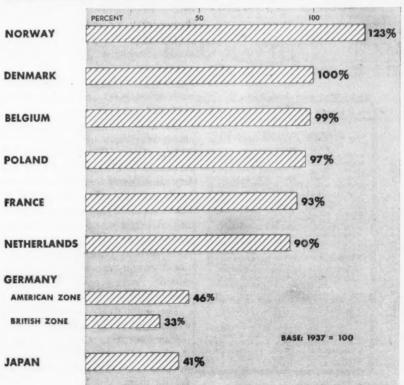
Consumer spending, which during

the first half of 1947 was at an annual rate of \$159 billion, continued to increase.

Frices In recent months, much attention has been focused on high prices and the rising cost of living. Various Government and private agencies have attempted to talk prices down. Consumer resistance to "out-of-line" prices has increased. The Federal Government announced in August that the U. S. Department of Justice would investigate prices in several basic industries. Despite these efforts, prices continue to rise.

The Wholesale Price Index of 900 commodities compiled by the U. S.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION IN 8 FOREIGN COUNTRIES



Bureau of Labor Statistics rose for nine consecutive weeks and on August 30 was at a level of 54 per cent above the 1926 average. This was 4.3 per cent above the last week in June and 20.1 per cent above that of a year ago.

Grain prices advanced sharply; the index for all farm products on August 30 was 81.7 per cent above the 1926 average. Higher prices for motor vehicles were announced by several manufacturers in August and early September with increases ranging from 2 to 8 per cent on some models.

The cost of living as measured by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumers' Price Index rose 0.7 per cent between May and June, establishing a new peak of 157.1 (1935-1939=100) on June 15. This was 0.5 per cent above the previous peak of 156.3 established in mid-March 1947. The purchasing power of the dollar as measured by consumer prices in June was 63.7 per cent of the 1935-1939 average.

Retail sales declined mod-Trade erately in August chiefly because of the extremely hot weather which prevailed during most of the month. Total volume was about even with to slightly above that of August 1946 when a sharp, contraseasonal rise in retail sales occurred.

Apparel volume generally declined in August. Many sections of the country reported that acceptance of the new Fall styles of women's dresses was slow.

In compliance with the terms of the Anglo-American Loan Agreement, free convertibility of the pound sterling was restored on July 15. The resulting rush to exchange sterling credits for dollars compelled Great Britain to suspend free convertibility for nations outside the dollar area just five weeks after it was put into effect. Dwindling dollar supplies had previously forced many of these countries to sharply reduce the volume of goods imported from the United States.

With the Bank of England no longer a source of dollar credits, it became necessary for several countries, particularly Canada and Australia, to impose further restrictions on the buying of American goods.

Consumers' Price Index

1944 1945 1946 1947 124.2 127.1 129.9 153.3 153.2 Februa March 126.8

123.8 123.8 124.6 125.1 125.4 126.1 126.4 120.4 Augus September October 145.9 128.0 126.6 December

Retail Sales

Seasonally Adju	sted Index 19;	5-1939 == 100. U	. S. Department of	Commerce.
	1944	1945	1946	1947
January	175.6	193.3	237.6	256.2
February	173.9	193.9	243.3	28000
March	177.9	196.4	241.	277-7
April	169.6	180.6	236/2	274.2
May	174.5	184.6	0.0	274.1
lune	174-4	189.6	238.7	275-3
July	179-4	198.4	247-5	274.0
August	18o.7	196.2	261.4	271.0 *
September	179.1	195.2	256.5	
October	185.0	7.8	260.3	
November .	102	220.1	273.0"	
December	87.7	216.8	270.1	

^{*} Approximation; figure from quoted source not available

Industrial Stock Prices

	Monthly Acetus	e of Daily Inde	r; Dow-Jones	
	1944	1945	1946	1947
January	137-74	153.95	199.00	176.10
February	135.97	157.13	100.46	181.54
March	139.07	157.22	94-3	176.66
April	137.19	160.47	205.8	171.28
May	139.22	165.58	206.63	168.67
lunc	145.46	167.33	207.32	N73 76
July	148.37	163.0	202.27	163.64
August	146.72	06.16	199-44	180.08
September	145.20	177.96	172.72	
October	14700	185.07	169.48	
November	1.88	100.22	168.94	
December	150.35	192.74	174.38	

WHOLESALE FOOD PRICE INDEX

The index is the sum total of the price per pound of 31 commodities in general use. It is not a cost-of-liv-ing index:

	311/2 111111111			
1947		1946	1947	
	Sept. 16\$7.12	Sept. 17\$5.03	High Sept. 16 \$7.12	
	Sept. 9., 7.02	Sept. 10., 4.99	Low May 20. 5.95	
	Sept. 2., 6.71	Sept. 3., 4.88	1946	
	Aug. 26. 6.64	Aug. 27 5.42	High Nov. 19.\$6.49	
	Aug 10 6 57	Aug 20. 5 31	Low Jan. 22, 4,12	

DAILY WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX

The index is prepared from spot closing prices of 30 asic commodities (1930-1932 = 100).

			1947		
	Sept.	Aug.	July	June	May
	*	268.28	259.27	†	253.65
	276.26	268.62	259.53	254.37	253.08
	277.12	+	200.18	255.71	252.61
	279.21	268.33	*	258.26	+
	280.50	269.03	259.87	257.42	253.29
	279.85	270.73	+	257.46	253.30
***	t	270.91	260.81	257.69	253.46
	280.17	271.22	259.80	†	253.9
	283.53	272.98	258.65	257.40	254.0
	286.10	+	259.77	256.76	253.8
	285.76	273.04	261.23	257.36	1
	284.06	271.91	262.50	258.25	252.9
	284.62	271.37	t	258.05	252.8
***	t	271.93	262.60	258.30	254.0
	286.28	273.46	264.02	t	255.6
	287.05	273.43	265.69	257.91	254.3
	286.17	+	205.19	258.74	254.5
	283.36	273.70	265.75	259.79	+
		274.17	266.03	260.86	253.50
		274.27	+	260.15	254.3
	*****	275.25	266.67	259.81	254.8
		275.64	266.57	†	254.3
		275.56	268.72	259.22	254.6
		t	268.87	259.73	255.4
		274.37	268.05	258.79	+
	*****	273.70	268.44	258.27	256.0
		274.06	+	258.73	254.5
	*****	275.33	268.77	257.76	258.8
	*****	275.65	266.48	t	256.4
	*****	275.71	266.34	258.25	
		t	268.29		

⁺ Sunday, * Markets closed.

Back-to-school promotions in early September stimulated interest in children's clothing and accessories.

Durable goods volume remained steady. Backlogs of orders for new automobiles continued to grow. The demand for name-brand refrigerators, washing machines, and kitchen ranges continued to be very heavy.

Wholesale volume increased noticeably in late August and in the early part of September. The restricted buying policies of retailers during June and July caused many manufacturers to cut production somewhat. In August, retailers, apparently convinced that prices and sales were going to hold firm, began to buy heavily. In several lines, particularly textiles and apparel, scarcities of certain types of goods were reported. Prices generally were higher than in June and July.

The slight drop in export volume which occurred during July and August reflected not so much a slackening in the demand or need for American products as a lack of dollars with which to pay for them.

NEW BUSINESS INCORPORATIONS BY STATES

	fuly	June 1947	July 1946	7 Mos.
4.1-1			88	735
Alabama	84	84	58	424
	49 85	49	28	400
Arkansas		59 688		5,108
California	644	83	951	
			93	547
Connecticut	107	126	196	1,600
Delaware	166	221	308	2,276
Florida	336	300	405	988
Georgia	110	108	62	187
Idaho	37	25	-	- /
Illinois	400	555	714	3.900
Indiana	183	174	193	1,241
Iowa	68 68	72	93	570 474
Kansas		64	76	526
Kentucky	69	69		
Louisiana	95	102	120	657
Maine	37	36	62	315
Maryland	188	192	. 195	1,337
Massachusetts	292	201	453	2,342
Michigan	277	301	417	2,300
Minnesota	154	164	169	993
Mississippi	68	59	72	454
Missouri	1 × 1	158	147	1,003
Montana	21	31	10	406
Nebraska	44	49	63	361
Nevada	47	54	50	218
New Hampshire	23	22	668	3,861
New Jersey	471	529	28	170
New Mexico	21	33	2.856	15.964
New York	1.047	2,073	187	1,201
North Carolina	176	125	13	09
North Dakota				3,358
Ohio	384	439	474 56	624
Oklahoma	132	52		619
Oregon	96	6.4	107 809	2.647
Pennsylvania	305	325 60		455
Rhode Island	52 66		93	564
South Carolina		75	95	204
South Dakota	25	111		283
Tennessee	147		154	2 453
Texas	500	297 58	400	347
Utah	36	28	22	:63
Vermont	13			1.005
Virginia	226	74	230	1.067
Washington			125	600
West Virginia	124	59	164	1.100
Wisconsin	22	178	11	160
Wyoming				
Total 48 States	0,041	8,922	11,987	68,399

Approximation: figure from quoted



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The United States Treasury Department continued its program of retirement of the public debt. New Treasury note offerings for September reflected a rise in interest rate from the previous ½ per cent to 1 per cent on money borrowed for one year. Many banks adjusted their lending rates accordingly. These latest increases are in keeping with the upward trend of interest rates which began about 18 months ago.

President Truman revised his budget estimate on August 20; the Government budget surplus is now expected to be \$4.7 billion in the fiscal year 1948.

Most security values declined slightly during August and the first part of September. Trading on the New York Stock Exchange was dull and volume was less than a million shares in all sessions during the period. The Dow-Jones Stock Price Average of 30 Industrials dropped to 180.08 in August from 183.64 in the previous month.

Failures

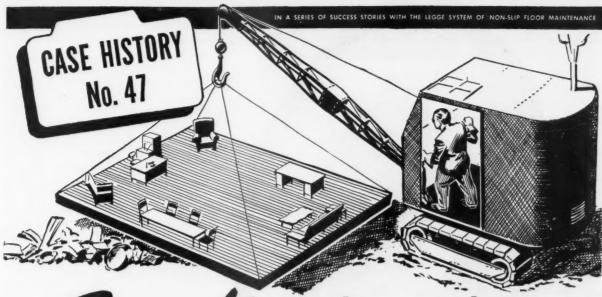
Business failures declined slightly in August, reversing the rise which began in December 1946. Two hundred and eighty-seven concerns failed, the highest for any August since 1942 and three

BUILDING PERMIT VALUES-215 CITIES

Geographic	An	01	
Divisions:	1947		Change
New England. Middle Atlantic. South Atlantic. Fast Central. South Central. West Central. Mountain Pacific	62,231,451	\$11,048,956 43,297,186 18,075,015 41,034,755 23,381,708 14,787,082 5,995,447 45,060,070	+22.3 +43.7 +73.0 +63.3 +52.6 +14.3 +53.6 +17.5
Total U. S New York City Outside N. Y. City	\$31,507,404	\$203,580,309 \$26,415,869 \$177,164,440	+42.5 +10.3 +45.0

BANK CLEARINGS—INDIVIDUAL CITIES

(T	housands of d	ollars)	
		ugust	%
	1047	1946	Change
Boston	1,055,728	1,655,035	+18.1
Philadelphia	3,206,000	3,353,000	- 4.1
Buffalo	320,735	296,018	+ 8.3
Pittsburgh	1,060,661	1,181,508	-10.3
Cleveland	1.208,496	1.135.671	+ 6.4
Cincinnati	649,793	606,083	+ 7.2
Baltimore	783,128	781,404	- 0.2
Richmond	451,617	495,511	- 8.9
Atlanta	811,800	925,100	-12.2
New Orleans	404,126	452,733	- 9.6
Shicago	2.845.531	2,710,337	+ 5.0
Detroit	1,479,910	1,351,066	+ 0.5
St. Louis	974,822	919,656	+ 6.0
ouisville	404,739	388,853	+ 4.1
dinneapolis	1,057,940	977.801	+ 8.2
Cansas City	1,326,420	1,150,033	+15.3
Omaha	486,119	460,731	+ 5.5
Denver	397,207	380,684	+ 4.3
Dallas	849,320	752,017	+12.0
louston	750,036	626,278	+10.8
an Francisco	1.632,974	1,591,808	+ 2.6
Portland, Ore	445,114	397,102	+14.6
eattle	420,284	395,851	+ 7-7
Total 23 Cities	23,943,500	22,984,280	+ 4.2
New York	26,378,906	28,385,285	- 7·1
Total 24 Cities	50,322,406	. 51,369,565	- 2.0
verage Daily	1,935,477	1,975,752	- 2.0



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THE wear and tear of stripping the wax from this floor every two or three weeks...then laying a new coat.. had eaten into the surface, caused unsightly color "bleeding".

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/ Floor Replacement Unnecessary

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	WALIER	6. Principal	P COMLVA	I INC.	

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	Type of Floor				



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times as high as in August a year ago. The Failure Index dipped slightly in August, with 15.2 businesses failing per 10,000 enterprises compared with only 5.2 in August of 1946.

Liabilities turned sharply downward with losses less than half those in July. Aggregating \$14,903,000, liabilities were the lowest since February 1947; in comparison with previous Augusts, losses were heavier than in any year since 1938. A drop in the number of large failures with liabilities of \$100,000 or more was chiefly responsible for the sharp Julyto-August decrease.

In comparison with August a year ago, failures were more numerous in each of the size groups. The sharpest rise appeared in failures involving losses of \$25,000 to \$100,000, three times as high as in the previous August, and in small failures with liabilities under \$5,000, three times as numerous as in August last year.

As in previous months, over twothirds of all August business failures occurred in manufacturing and in retail trade. Within the manufacturing group, concerns failing continued to be most numerous in the machinery industry. Failures of machinery manu-

FAILURES BY DIVISIONS OF INDUSTRY

	(Current liabilities in	Jan-	Aug.		-Aug.
	thousands of dollars)	1947	1946		1046
	MINING, MANUFACTURING	840	278	89,915	15,693
l	Mining-Coal, Oil, Misc	7	11	536	1,001
ĺ	Food and Kindred Products	61	14	13,641	5144
ŀ	Textile Products, Apparel	72	18	3,639	279
	Lumber, Lumber Products	123	35	8,917	1,503
	Paper, Printing, Publishing,	23	- 8	970	136
	Chemicals, Allied Products.	39	16	8,721	1,418
ĺ	Leather, Leather Products	35	3	2,012	171
Í	Stone, Clay, Glass Products.	20	6	1,016	298
	Iron, Steel, and Products	46	13	3.835	
	Machinery	185	82 18	27,133	6,436
	Miscellaneous	33	54	8,197	2,279
į	ACISCONATICOUS	100	24	11,290	وه ر شوشه
	WHOLISALE TRADE	293	50	15,245	2,649
	Food and Farm Products	63	16	5,339	1,433
	Apparel	13	2	512	3.4
	Dry Goods	6	X	615	20
	Lumber, Bldg. Mats., Hdwr.	20	3	2,090	25%
	Chemicals and Drugs	1.4	4	210	47
	Motor Vehicles, Equipment.	17	1	337	47
	Miscellaneous	151	23	6,142	829
	RETAIL TRADE	752	184	14,341	4,137
l	Food and Liquor	117	29	1,381	295
ŀ	General Merchandise	26	8	358	142
	Apparel and Accessories	129	25	2,135	309
	Furniture, Furnishings	119	12	1.901	866
	Lumber, Bldg. Mats., Hdwr.	35	11	1,341	120
	Automotive Group	77	34	1,328	1.391
	Eating, Drinking Places	141	37	4,190	636
	Drug Stores	15	7	177	30
	priscernicous	93	21	1,530	336
	CONSTRUCTION	143	81	3,474	2,070
	General Bldg. Contractors	47	23	1,883	782
	Building Sub-contractors	90	55	1,121	884
	Other Contractors	6	3	470	404
	COMMURCIAL SERVICE	190	73	24,873	4,908
	Highway Transportation	82	23	20,015	3,282
	Misc. Public Services	7		242	
	Hotels	3	X	3,001	687
	Cleaning, Dyeing, Repairs	12	7	403	32
	Laundries	11	5	158	231
	Undertakers	2	2	17	8
	Other Personal Services	10	XX	136	165
	Business, Repair Service	63	2.4	851	473



When Failure is a "Crime"...

Some men are destined never to succeed in business. While they may be alert and ambitious, they lack native ability; they are not executive material, and no amount of training will lift them out of the ranks.

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facturers totalled 26, exceeding the number occurring in any other line of industry or trade. In retail trade, businesses failing were not heavily concentrated in any one line; there were between ten and twenty failures in five lines: food, apparel, furniture, automotive, and eating places. Wholesale failures had the largest increase from last year's level, rising from 5 to 44. Construction and commercial service failures continued low, numbering 19 and 23, and increased the least from a year ago.

About one-half of the month's failures were in the Pacific and Middle Atlantic States. Seventy-eight concerns failed in the Pacific Region, three more than in the Middle Atlantic; liabilities involved in Pacific failures totalled \$6,455,000, twice the total for any other region.

California with 69 had the most failures and New York was next with 40. Failures in non-metropolitan districts predominated in August, numbering 167 against 120 in the twenty-five largest cities. In Los Angeles, failures were double those of the preceding month, rising to 33. In New York, which reported 31, and in Los Angeles, failures were twice as numerous as in any other metropolitañ area.

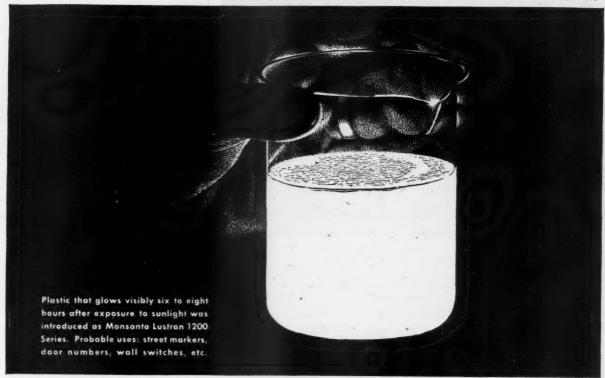


THE FAILURE RECORD

Dun's Failure Index*	Aug. 1947	Inly 1947		Per Cent Changet
Unadjusted	13.4	14.2	4.6	+191
Adjusted, seasonally	15.2	15.3	5.2	+192
NUMBER OF FAILURES	287	200	92	+212
NUMBER BY SIZE OF DEST				
UNDER \$5,000	50	40	15	+233
\$5,000-\$25,000	143	138	47.6	
525,000-\$100,000	69	71	1.0	+ 441
\$100,000 and ever	25	41	12	7-1118
NUMBER BY INDUSTRY GROUPS				
Manufacturing	99	107	37	+168
Wholesale Trade	44	40	5	No.1
Retail Trade	102	105	26	+202
Construction	19	17	1.2	+ 58
Commercial Service	23	30	12	+ 92

(Liabilities in thousands) CURRENT LIABILITIES.... \$14,903 37,137 3,709 +202
TOTAL LIABILITIES..... 14,903 37,948 3,709 +202

* Apparent annual failures per 10,000 enterprises. † Per cent change of August 1947 from August 1946.



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-1947 ANNUAL MEETING, MONSANTO STOCKHOLDERS

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rent rate of 142 million dollars, employees from about 5,000 to well over 12,700.

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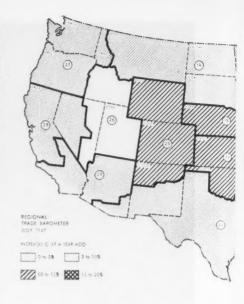
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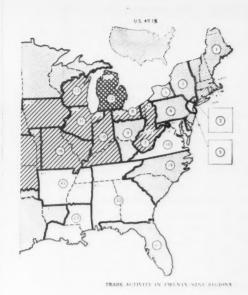


Buying Sustained

HERE was a moderate increase in consumer buying in September following the record-breaking heat waves that occurred during the last half of August. Dollar volume in September rose and was about 10 per cent above that of a year ago. A favorable consumer response to Fall promotions was reported in many areas. Retail volume was further boosted by the continued sharp increase in the amount of goods sold on the installment plan and through charge accounts.

The seasonal rise in the demand for apparel during early September was especially sharp among the school-age group. Interest in home furnishings, electrical appliances, and automobile accessories was maintained at a very high level. While slow deliveries have curtailed sales of new automobiles, many used car dealers have reported volume to be at a very high level. Retail food sales increased slightly with the advent of cooler weather; dollar volume continued to compare very favorably with that of a year ago.

The moderate decline in consumer purchases of commodities in August as measured by the Dun's Review advance Regional Trade Barometer resulted largely from unusually high temperatures during the last two weeks of the



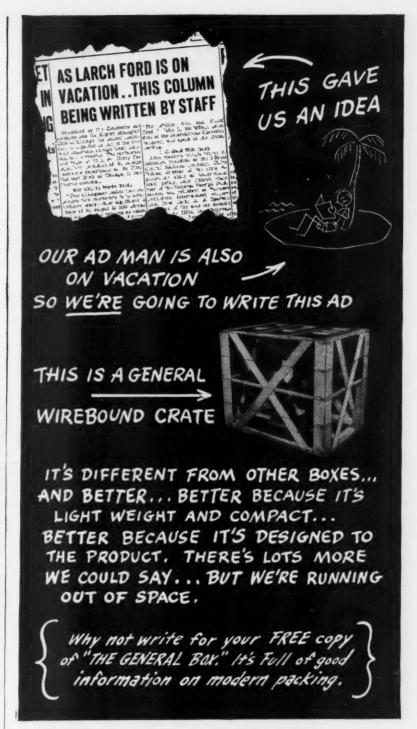
ed Near Peak Level

month. The August barometer dropped 6.2 per cent to 263.7 (1935-1939=100), after adjustment for seasonal variations and for the number of business days in the month. Despite this decline, the barometer was 0.4 per cent above the 262.7 of a year ago and was close to previous high levels.

The July barometer was almost unchanged from the near-record level reached in June. The index of 281.2 was only one-tenth of a point below the June index and was two-tenths of a point below the all-time high reached in March 1947. The barometer was 9.1 per cent above the 257.7 of July 1946; this was the smallest percentage gain over the corresponding 1946 month so far this year.

The July barometers in many regions were slightly below those of the preceding month. In no region did the drop exceed 10 per cent and in most regions it was less than 5 per cent. Moderate increases occurred in eleven regions; most of these monthly gains were in regions located in the East North Central area.

While most of the regional barometers declined slightly in July, none of them was below the level of a year ago. Percentage increases above July 1946 varied from less than I per cent in the



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New Orleans Region (23) to nearly 16 per cent in the Detroit Region (12). These percentage increases over a year ago were small in comparison with those of previous months; recent rises in retail trade have been less sharp than the unusual increases during the first post-war year.

The highest barometer in July was 366.9 in the Florida Region (21) and the lowest was 200.0 in the Northern New Jersey Region (5). Other high barometers were 353.7 in the Atlanta and Birmingham Region (20) and 344.5 in the Texas Region (24). None of the barometers were below 200.0 and seven were above 300.0. Most of the high barometers were in the South and West while the lowest barometers were centered in regions in the Northeast.

All the barometers are seasonally adjusted with factors based upon pre-war buying habits. It seems probable that trade activity in Florida now drops less in the Summer months than it did in pre-war years. Work is being done on an adjustment of the seasonal factor for Florida; it is likely that a revision of this factor based upon recent retail sales reports will lower the adjusted Florida barometers in the Summer months.

The Dun's Review Regional Trade Barometers are composite indexes which are designed to reflect the volume of consumer purchases in the United States and each of the 29 regions. They furnish to business men an indication of current levels of retail trade and to sales executives a guide on which to base an evaluation of sales quotas.

The components of the barometers are bank debits and department store sales (Federal Reserve Board) and retail sales of independent stores (U. S. Bureau of the Census). The indexes of all regions are comparable. A preliminary figure for the United States is computed and is available one month before the final United States and regional figures are prepared.

A description of the 1944 general revision of the index as well as back figures (yearly from 1935 and monthly from January 1939) are available without charge. The barometer figures may be obtained in advance of publication by arrangement with the editors.

(Regional reports begin on page 38)



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One of Canada's largest importers of china, crystal, etc., since 1902.
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TRADE ACTIVITY IN TWENTY-NINE REGIONS

(Continued)

REGIONAL TRADE BAROMETERS

		% Chan	Change from	
		July 1946	June 1947	
REGION				
United States	281.2	+ 9.1	0.0	
I. New England		+ 5.4		
2. New York City	239.0			
3. Albany, Utica, Syracuse	249.9	+ 8.9	- 6.1	
4. Buffalo, Rochester	2.18.7	+ 9.6	- 8.6	
5. Northern New Jersey.	200.0	+ 1.1	- 7.2	
6. Philadelphia	248.7	+ 6.0	+ 1.4	
7. Pittsburgh	241.9	+10.6	+ 2.5	
8, Cleveland	290.3	+10.2	+ 2.5	
9. Cincinnati, Columbus	301.5	+ 9.9	+ 2.6	
10. Indianapolis, Louisville	312.3	+10.0	+ 4.6	
11. Chicago	263.7	+13.4	+ 3.2	
12. Detroit	295.6	+15.0	+ 3.1	
13. Milwaukee	284.2	+10.2	- 0.4	
14. Minneapolis, St. Paul.	251.8	+ 9.4	-4.8	
15. Iowa, Nebraska	287.4	+12.4	+ 4.2	
16. St. Louis	272.6	+11.3	+11.4	
17. Kansas City	274.8	+10.1	+ 0.9	
18. Maryland, Virginia	246.0	+ 3.8	- 4.5	
19. North, South Carolina	295.1	+ 5.7	- 6.7	
20. Atlanta, Birmingham.	353-7	+ 4.9	- 2.7	
21. Florida	366.9	+ 5.6	- 3.6	
22. Memphis	306.5	+ 1.2	- 1.4	
23. New Orleans	292.4	+ 0.8	- 5.6	
24. Texas	344.5	+ 6.6	+ 2.8	
25. Denver	272.8	+11.5	- 2.8	
26. Salt Lake City	262.1	+ 2.3	- 9.0	
27. Portland, Scattle	304.I	+ 5.3	- 2.4	
28. San Francisco	288.0	+ 5.8	- 3.2	
29. Los Angeles	299.6	+ 5.9	- 1.9	

The Regional Trade Barometers are seasonally adjusted; 1935-1939=100.

Regional trade information is based upon opinions and comments of business men gathered and weighed by the local Dun & Bradstreet offices. Payroll and employment data are from Government sources. Most of the information summarized here represents final figures for July.

Department store sales are from the Federal Reserve Board and are for the four weeks ended August 30, 1947.

More complete barometer figures and more detailed regional information is published in Dun's STATISTICAL REVIEW.

HIGHLIGHTS OF TRADE ACTIVITY

1. New England Region

Barometer next to lowest of all regions; monthly decline among the sharpest. Wholesale volume moderately above a year ago. Manufacturing employment down 5% in Massachusetts, 2% in Connecticut, 1% in Rhode Island. Tourist trade reached all-time high. New England department store sales 7% below a year ago.

2. New York City Region

Barometer declined slightly; 15% below U. S. barometer. Wholesale trade slightly above a year ago. New York City industrial employment down fractionally, 2% above a year ago. New York City department store sales 3% below a year ago.

3. Albany, Utica, and Syracuse Region

Barometer down moderately, well above a year ago; 11% below U. S. barometer. Albany wholesale trade 10% above a year ago, Syracuse up 7%. Industrial employment almost unchanged. Albany, Utica building permit values double a year ago. Syracuse department store sales 14% below a year ago.



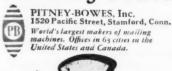
Ambassador of ill will

"Feels like a little less than two ounces," says the old letter scale in your mailing department. "Six cents should be enough." But actually the letter weighs a little over two ounces. The people at the receiving end are stuck for three cents...and your firm's reputation for efficiency suffers.

Why risk ill will and waste postage when you can be safe and sure... with a PB Mailing Scale?... Automatically figures exact postage for any mail—Air Mail, First and Third class, Parcel Post by zones, Special Delivery and Special Handling. Face of scale shows large, legible numbers for quick reading.

The PB Mailing Scale operates by an automatic pendulum for greater accuracy, longer use. No springs to adjust or wear out. Call our nearest office or write direct for illustrated folder...today!

PITNEY-BOWES Mailing Scale







BRITISH COLUMBIA



WOOD PRODUCTS

Forests of British Columbia are conservatively estimated to contain more than 254 billion feet of merchantable timber. Almost wholly softwoods, the timber stands include Western Hemlock, Spruce, Douglas Fir, Western Red Cedar, Silver Fir and Lodgepole Pine. Production of lumber, pulp and paper comprises the largest primary industry of the Province.

Forests have been placed on a perpetual yield basis. The industry is well-developed but a number of important opportunities for remanufacturing exist.

An Important World Source of Industrial Material

366.255 square miles of Canada's Pacific Coast province encompass a vast range of natural resources. Important to the industries of the world many of these resources are neither fully developed nor fully explored.

To help industrialists consider British Columbia's potentialities, the Provincial Government will supply a factual report prepared in response to any specific inquiry.

High-calibre research facilities are offered locally-on a confidential basis-by the British Columbia Research Council. A nonprofit organization, it is located at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver.

Advantages to new industrial developments in British Columbia are numerous. Yearround ice free ports on the Pacific, moderate climate, abundant water-power in a province with a long record of sound government contribute to the desirability of investing in this great area.

A partial list of wood products now being made in British Columbia.

Fir Lumber Hemlock Lumber Headings Spruce Lumber Pine Lumber Railway Ties Telegraph Poles Lath Handle Squares Shingle Bands Match Blocks Shingles Veneer Staves

Impreg Pickle Kits Sashes Doors Matches Crates Excelsion Car Strips **Furniture** Charcoal

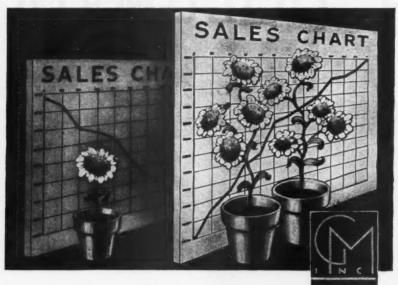
Tar

Sawdust Paper Boxes Boxes Tool Handles Corrugated Card Pulp Container Board Newsprint Writing Papers Wrapping Paper Roofing Papers Tissue Paper Insulating Board Greaseproof Paper

Inquiries about industrial opportunities in British Columbia should be addressed

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY VICTORIA BRITISH COLUMBIA

TO Step-Up SALES CALL IN THE "G-MAN"



He Makes 2 Sales Grow Where Only I Grew Before

Metal Calendars

• Leatherette Calendars

• Esquire Gift Leather

Mechanical Pencils

• Art Calendars

Business Gifts

If you want to attract new customers, retain old customers, or regain lost, strayed or stolen customers, discuss your problem with the "G-Man" in your vicinity.

You'll find him full of helpful suggestions on how to make two sales grow where only one sale grew before.

The "G-Man" is a trained representative of Gettier-Montanye, Inc., expert in the art of promoting sales by the use of goodwill advertising. He brings you a wide selection of useful and desirable business gifts with tested plans for their use. Back of the "G-Man" is an organization with 26 years experience that has served many of America's foremost business houses.

You'll find the "G-Man" is active among the business leaders of your community—respected for the service he renders—ready to cooperate with you for the

If you don't know how to reach the "G-Man" in your vicinity, write to us.

GETTIER-MONTANYE, INC.

Direct Appeal Advertising 405 W. FRANKLIN STREET, BALTIMORE 1, MD.

Send for Free Brochure!

Gettier-Montanye, Inc., 405 W. Franklin Street, Baltimore 1, Maryland Please send me - FREE - a copy of your Brochure "1001 Nights"

Position (Please attach to or write on your business letterhead.)

4. Buffalo and Rochester Region Barometer dropped sharply; 12% below U. S. barometer. Buffalo wholesale trade slightly above a year ago, Rochester slightly below. Buffalo department store sales 8% below a year ago, Rochester down 4%.

5. Northern New Jersey Region

Lowest barometer of all regions; 29% below U. S. barometer. Newark wholesale trade 6% below a year ago. Factory employment up slightly, 5% above a year ago. Newark department store sales 9% below a year ago.

6. Philadelphia Region

Barometer increased slightly, moderately above a year ago. Wholesale volume compared favor-ably with 1946. Industrial employment down slightly. Philadelphia department store sales 1% below a year ago.

7. Pittsburgh Region

Barometer increased moderately; 14% below
U. S. barometer. Wholesale trade moderately above a year ago, down sharply in Pittsburgh. Industrial employment high. Pittsburgh department store sales 7% below a year ago.

8. Cleveland Region

Barometer up slightly, 3% above U.S. Wholesale trade moderately above a year ago. Unemployment 24% below a year ago. Akron building permit values 8% above a year ago. Cleveland department store sales 9% below a year ago.

9. Cincinnati and Columbus Region

Barometer 7% above U. S.; moderate monthly increase, well above a year ago. Cincinnati wholesale trade 16% below a year ago, Columbus up 6%; Cincinnati department store sales down 8%, Columbus down 11%.

10. Indianapolis and Louisville Region

Barometer increase among the sharpest, 10% above a year ago; 11% above U. S. barometer. Wholesale trade moderately above a year ago. Indianapolis department store sales 11% below a year ago, Louisville down 2%.

11. Chicago Region

Barometer rose moderately, well above a year ago; 6% below U. S. barometer. Chicago wholesale trade 8% below a year ago; Peoria, Springfield up moderately. Chicago department store sales 11% below a year ago.

12. Detroit Region

Barometer gain moderate; 5% above U. S. Wholesale volume well above a year ago in Grand Rapids, Saginaw. Manufacturing employment down 3%, 5% above a year ago. Detroit department store sales even with a year ago.

13. Milwaukee Region

Barometer down fractionally, 10% above a year ago; 1% above U. S. barometer. Milwaukee wholesale trade steady with a year ago, Green Bay up 4%. Milwaukee department store sales 9% below a year ago.

14. Minneapolis and St. Paul Region

Barometer down moderately, 11% below U. S. barometer. Wholesale trade slightly above a year ago. Minnesota manufacturing employment up 5% to post-war peak. Minneapolis retail volume moderately above a year ago.

15. Iowa and Nebraska Region

Barometer monthly increase among the sharpest, 2% above U. S. barometer. Wholesale trade moderately above a year ago. Iowa employment 17% above a year ago. Dry, hot weather reduced corn yield below 1946 record level.

16. St. Louis Region

Barometer up sharply; 3% below U. S. barometer. St. Louis wholesale trade 5% above a year ago. St. Louis building permit values down slightly, 19% below a year ago. St. Louis department store sales 9% below a year ago.

Helping to keep America's blood stream



RAILROAD traffic might well be called the blood stream of America. It cannot stop if our nation is to be strong and healthy.

United States Steel is proud of the part it has been able to play in the constant improvement of the service and efficiency of America's railroads through better steels and better products of steel.

Steel bearing the U·S·S trade-mark participated in the development of the gleaming stainless steel streamliners that helped to revo-

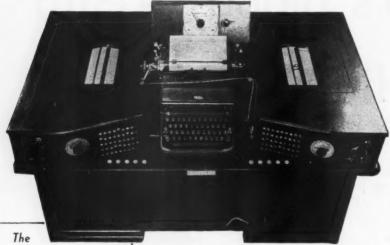
lutionize railroad passenger transportation.

United States Steel has also pioneered in developing Cor-Ten, a high-strength, low-alloy steel for light-weight construction that has been used in more than 65,000 freight cars and also to reduce deadweight in numerous streamlined trains, trolley cars, buses and trucks.

The research program of United States Steel is continuing daily—to develop newer and finer steels to provide better living for you.

United States Steel corporation subsidiaries

You are looking at the only machine made that will typewrite complete letters of page or more in length from any selection of paragraphs. Its perforated record rolls carry from 80 to 160 standard paragraphs. Your typist merely addresses the letter and pushes the paragraph selector button. The Auto-typist finishes the letter automatically at more than two times manual speed!



PUSH BUTTON Auto-typist Permits:

Automatic typing of ANY SELECTION from 80 to 160 form paragraphs in any order or sequence.

Or, any selection from 20 or more complete letters

Typing of sales letters on any one or a variety of products.

Typing of answers to inquiries on large number of different products.

Typing of credit and collection forms with manual typing of dates, amounts, and nature of purchases

Typing of subscription and renewal correspondence by renewal c publishers

Typing of detail letters to physicians, dentists, or users from selections of paragraph covering various products.

THE everyday performance of this amazing machine is so spectacular that the listing at the side gives only a hint of its flexibility.

Every man or woman responsible for production of sales or promotion letters, collection letters, or handling of repetitive correspondence will want the facts.

See for yourself how one ordinary typist can use Auto-typists to turn out as many as 300 perfectly typed letters a day, each letter different from each other, and each letter highly personalized with manual interpolation of dates. names, amounts, catalog numbers, or descriptions. Sounds impossible? Rush your name for new circular describing the PUSH BUTTON Auto-typist. We'll answer with an Auto-typed letter, typed for you as a demonstration of the almost human flexibility and the superhuman speed of this machine.

Use the coupon or your stationery.

The Auto-typist, Dept. 410

614 N. Carpenter St. The Auto-tunist Dent 410

Chicago 22. Illinois

614 N. Carpenter St., Chicago 22, Illinois
Write to me on the Auto-typist and send with your specinien letter a circular describing the Push Button Model. There is no charge or obligation.
Name
Company
Address
City Tong State

17. Kansas City Region

Barometer increased slightly, moderately above a year ago; 2% below U. S. barometer. Kansas City wholesale trade 5% below a year ago, Oklahoma City unchanged. Kansas City department store sales 5% below a year ago.

18. Maryland and Virginia Region

Barometer declined moderately; 13% below U. S. barometer. Baltimore wholesale trade 10% above a year ago; Norfolk, Richmond down 5%. Baltimore department store sales 14% below a year ago, Washington down 3 ...

19. North and South Carolina Region Barometer down moderately: 5% above U. S. trometer. Wholesale trade slightly below a year ago in North Carolina, up fractionally in South Carolina. Asheville, Charleston building permit values well above a year ago.

20. Atlanta and Birmingham Region Second highest barometer of all regions, 26° second highest barometer of all regions, 20% above U. S. barometer. Birmingham wholesale trade 10% above a year ago; Nashville, Savannah down moderately. Atlanta department store sales 2% below a year ago.

21. Florida Region

Highest barometer of all regions, 31% above U. S. barometer. Tampa, Miami, Jacksonville wholesale trade moderately below a year ago. Miami department store sales 10% above a year ago, Jacksonville down 8%.

22. Memphis Region

Barometer down fractionally, 9% above U. S. barometer. Memphis, Little Rock wholesale trade tunchanged from a year ago. Considerable crop damage from drought in Arkansas. Memphis department store sales 11% below a year ago.

23. New Orleans Region

Barometer declined moderately, fractionally above a year ago; 4% above U. S. barometer. New Orleans wholesale trade 10% above a year ago, Jackson up 8%. New Orleans department store sales 1% above a year ago.

24. Texas Region

Barometer increased moderately, third highest in U. S.; 23% above U. S. barometer. Wholesale trade slightly above a year ago. Industrial employment 9% above a year ago. Dallas department store sales 6% below a year ago.

25. Denver Region

Barometer 3% below previous month, 3% below U. S. barometer. Colorado crop yield near peak, New Mexico yield curtailed by dry weather. Denver building permit values 53% above a year ago; department store sales down 3%.

26. Salt Lake City Region

Barometer dropped sharply, slightly above a year ago; 7% below U. S. barometer. Salt Lake City wholesale trade 19% above a year ago; total employment unchanged. Salt Lake City department store sales 16% above a year ago.

27. Portland and Seattle Region

Barometer declined moderately; 8% above U. S. barometer. Seattle wholesale trade 8% above a year ago. Portland department store sales 5% above a year ago, Scattle up 6%; Scattle building permit values down 35%

28. San Francisco Region

Barometer down slightly, moderately above a year ago: 2% above U. S. barometer. Wholesale trade fractionally above a year ago. California factory employment up 3%. San Francisco department store sales even with a year ago.

29. Los Angeles Region

Barometer moderately above a year ago; 7% above U. S. barometer. Los Angeles wholesale trade 9% above 1946. Southern California industrial employment down 1%. Los Angeles department store sales 7% above a year ago.

It's time to save time IN OFFICE SYSTEMS DUPLICATING

Instead of using printed office forms, use Davidson Pre-printed Paper Masters. These Masters are supplied with any of your standard office forms pre-printed on them.





Your typist fills in the variable matter directly on this Master using pen, pencil, typewriter, or other mechanical writing device. Erasures and corrections are easily made. It's just like typing on paper.

• Business efficiency begins in the office . . . with the office paper work that directs the operations of the entire organization.

With the Davidson Offset Duplicating System, much of this multiple-copy paper work can be reduced to a single writing . . . shop orders, order billing, combination order and invoice writing, production payroll, etc. One writing, but as many copies as you need . . . dozens or hundreds . . . one for each department involved in the transaction.

It's simple . . . fast . . . dependable. Avoids delays . . . prevents errors. Every copy is an exact duplicate of the original in black or any color . . . clear and sharp . . . no broken lines . . . no fuzzy, indistinct characters.

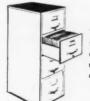
And, of course, it's most economical. No large stocks of printed forms to buy . . . no loss through obsolescence or scrapping. Just carry a small stock of Davidson Pre-printed Paper Masters . . . and they're very inexpensive.

There's a big plus value, too, for with a Davidson Dual Duplicator you can also produce your letter-heads, envelopes, advertising folders and booklets, bulletins, price lists, and dozens of other items in one or more colors.

Get the facts today about this modern method of expediting office paper work. See your local Davidson Sales and Service Agency or mail the coupon.

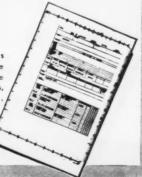
Place this typed Master on your Davidson Dual Duplicator and, running blank paper through it, the complete form and variable matter are reproduced simultaneously . . . all the copies you want . . . a dozen or a thousand.





Then, if you want, file this Master for future use. It won't fade or curl. Won't show finger marks under normal handling. Ready at any time to re-run.

When re-used, erasures and changes can be made or new information, price extensions, shipping dates, etc., can be added . . . easily . . . quickly.



Davidson Manufacturing Corporation 1038-60 West Adams Street, Chicago 7, Illinois

Gentlemen: I would like to know more about how I can expedite office paper work with a Davidson Dual Duplicator and Davidson Paper Masters.

Name....

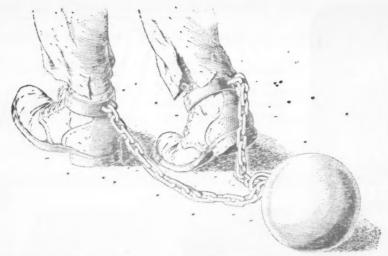
City......State.....

Davidson

Davidson Sales and Service Agencies are located in principal cities of U.S., Canada, Mexico, and abroad.

A GENERATION OF EXPERIENCE IN THE MANUFACTURE OF OFFICE EQUIPMENT





Obsolete Calculating Equipment

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Your Figure Work Production

REPLACE with FRIDEN.... the fully automatic Calculator which produces accurate answers to every type of accounting problem. Exclusive operating features make possible Friden Methods.

These save you time and money by speeding your figure work production with only useful answers.

Call your local Friden Representative who will prove it is economical to REPLACE with FRIDEN.



TRIDEN CALCULATING MACHINE CO., INC. HOME OFFICE AND PLANT - SAN LEANDRO, CALLE, U.S. A. - SALES AND SERVICE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

HERE and THERE

Jobholders' Meetings—A new wrinkle in employee relations was the recent initiation of annual jobholders' meetings by Pitney-Bowes, Inc., Stamford, Conn., manufacturer of mailing machines. The meetings, conducted on company time, took place during the week of the annual stockholders' meeting.

The 1,400 employees, divided into six groups, heard Walter H. Wheeler, Jr., company president, report on the year's financial operations, present problems, and future plans. Each worker was given the facts on invested capital, surplus, depreciation, and so on.

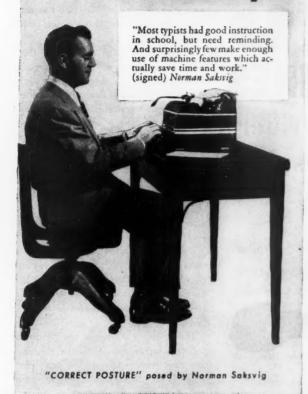
Also included was a discussion of sales and production costs and of employees' wages and officers' salaries. Mr. Wheeler invited and answered questions from the floor.

Store Modernization—A store modernization plan designed to enable dealers to sell both a larger number of shirts as well as other related items such as ties, handkerchiefs, socks, and so on, has been developed by Cluett, Peabody & Co., Inc. This was presented through a miniature model store and newly designed fixtures at the recent Store Modernization Show at Grand Central Palace.

The plan, available to all Arrow dealers at a nominal charge, is based upon studies made in hundreds of men's stores and department stores, consisting of analysis of hundreds of thousands of sales checks and observation of thousands of customers as they bought men's wear items. Fixtures were tested, new ones designed and tested, and more efficient layouts devised.

The program calls for assigning traffic locations to items in accordance with their display value and the frequency with which they are bought on impulse; locating items so that one item helps to sell another; and displaying and stocking related items together and especially those that can be styled for

"Make your typewriter do it!"



says NORMAN SAKSVIG ...

Former speed champion and authority on correct technique tells you how to reduce fatigue and back and eye strain by simple methods already demonstrated to over 200,000 typists.

WHEN Mr. Saksvig appears before your employees, his objective is to demonstrate his technique rather than our machine.

Our aim is obvious. For if users of Smith-Corona Typewriters can learn to get out of these fine machines the many services we build into them, our sales problem becomes no problem at all!



Correct fingering means "hugging the keys"—fingers always on keyboard, pivoting from the guide keys as required.



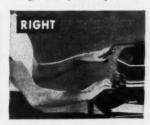
More time and effort are lost this way than you imagine. Keep your hands down—and watch speed go up!



Wrists relaxed, and slanted about parallel to keyboard; fingers should be curved and resting lightly on the guide keys.



Wrists far too bigh, and fingers much too straight. This position produces excessive fatigue, and increases typing errors.



Start the carriage with a quick firm throw, drop lever before it's half way across, let momentum do the rest.



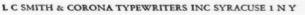
Don't lean, don't "follow through" as you return the carriage, don't hold hand on lever all the way across.



AUTOMATIC MARGIN SET... A SMITH-CORONA "EXCLUSIVE"

We photographed a light on Saksvig's finger, and timed him with a stop-watch. Hand leaves keyboard, finger sets right

margin and left margin, then returns to keyboard. Time... one second! Figure that saving in a day's typing!





SMITH-CORONA

OFFICE TYPEWRITERS

Makers also of famous Smith-Corona Portable Typewriters, Adding Machines, Vivid Duplicators and Typebar Brand Ribbons and Carbons.

BUY NO DICTATING MACHINES

unless you get SoundScriber



SoundScriber Electronic Disc Dicta-

tion has swept the business world because it insures better, quicker, easier, more economical business communication.

SoundScriber records on wafer-thin, flexible, unbreakable discs—easy to manipulate, easy to file, easy to mail. In recording, SoundScriber's light beam indexer makes it quick and easy to "edit" what you say, to transmit directions to your secretary. Work flows through the office at top speed and time-saving accuracy.

Because your voice comes through crystal clear, your secretary types without fatigue or tension. SoundScriber equipment is skillfully designed to work the way you work and the way your secretary works. No dictating system ever devised is easier to use!

SoundScriber—low in first cost—cuts operating costs all down the line. One-fourth of all new SoundScribers are going to present users who want more of them! They are getting results! Let us tell you how, where and why the SoundScriber system is bringing tremendous new efficiency to the business communication methods of tens of thousands of users. Mail the coupon today!

First in disc dictation

PI

COUND

The Count of Count of

each other. It is planned that fixtures should be designed for the merchandise and the merchandise should not be made to fit them; likewise, that the fixtures should get the merchandise out where the customers can see, feel, and select it.

The original studies showed that men's wear retailers sold an average of 20 ties and 4 handkerchiefs for each 100 shirts. Research demonstrated that when properly styled ties and handkerchiefs for the three predominant suit colors were displayed and stocked together with shirts there were on an average of 60 ties and 45 handkerchiefs sold for each 100 shirt customers. All of this material plus a letter outlining the reasons for each part of the dealer's plan is sent to the dealer in a folder.

Recommendations are made after a careful study of each store's own merchandising problems as experience has taught that it isn't enough to merely install modernized fixtures or revise a layout.

Following a study of the planning information supplied by the dealer a layout is made with templates on a plotting board. Scale models are superimposed and photographed to gain a picture of the general appearance.

Cluett, Peabody and Co., Inc., has retained the Russell W. Allen Company to conduct this modernized planning service for its dealers.

Other lines of industry which have initiated a similar program for their dealers include the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company and the Hat Research Foundation.

Transmission in Color—A variety of commercial and industrial uses for facsimile transmission in natural colors are foreseen for "Colorfax" which Finch Telecommunications, Inc., New York, will market in April. This means for radio or wire transmission of pictures, textile designs, and so on, was developed by Capt. W. G. H. Finch, facsimile pioneer, and Dr. LaVerne R. Philpott, the company's director of research.

Anticipated commercial and industrial uses of Colorfax include the transmission of comics, maps, advertisements, and so on, in connection with FM facsimile broadcasts to home

STATE



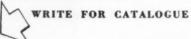


USEFUL, PRACTICAL GIFT SUGGESTIONS for the OFFICE and HOME

American Industries offers you ideal Gift suggestions for your customers, employees and friends. These are useful, practical items that will be used and appreciated throughout the year. Write today for our complete catalogue. Liberal discounts to business houses.







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WE KNOW Your FILING TOO!

When filed in *Liberty* Storage Boxes inactive records are safe and easy to find. Contents instantly available, yet dust and dirt are kept out by patented closure.

Write for free Manual of Record Storage Practice.



Sold by leading stationers everywhere
BANKERS BOX COMPANY

720 S. Dearborn St., Chicago 5, III.

cook's NUT CRACKER and SHELLER



The old 'way.

Business executives—let us help you with your Christmas Gift mailing list. Cook's Nut Cracker and Sheller makes an ideal gift.



No more rough fingers—no more broken finger nails—the whole meat comes out easily and quickly. Strongly constructed, stainless steel. Send us your gift list and check—we'll fill your orders!

Postage Prepaid Sorry No C.O.D.'s

Also—we can supply you with Pecans, Homemade Pralines, and Fruit Cakes. Write for prices and details.

COOK SALES

Dept. A

P. O. Box 5166, Station B New Orleans, La.

receivers; the sending of proofs or layouts in color as a part of advertising agency and publishing activities; and a reproduction of fabrics for a study of design and color.

In Colorfax, the image being broadcast is broken down optically at the transmitter into several color separations. Each of these resulting images is of a particular primary color, which together produce the color of the original image. Each of the primary images is used to control electric current in accordance with the color on the image. These signals are received at the recorder where they in turn control the application in their respective primary shades of colored leads on ordinary paper.

Before the war the conventional black on white facsimile was largely experimental, with about 15 stations transmitting such programs as radio newspapers. To-day, the number of such stations has decreased somewhat, due in part to the early type home receivers being worn out and not as yet replaced with the improved equipment. However, the business use of facsimile is being expedited with the manufacture of new equipment.

Business procedures can be accelerated by reducing from days to minutes the transmission time of items which now are being sent by air-mail such as maps, sketches, diagrams, signatures, printed forms, and innumerable other items. Other commercial uses are the transmission of maps, charts, and newspapers to ships at sea; weather maps and news to airliners; and telegrams and orders to trains.

Loom—The bobbinless Swiss Sulzer loom which may bring a marked change in the weaving of cloth in this country is being experimentally developed for the American market by the Warner & Swazey Company, Cleveland.

It is expected that five pilot models will be completed during the last quarter of 1947 and that, if tests of these machines are successful, the first production models will reach the market early in 1949. The machine, for which Warner & Swazey has obtained the American rights, is being reduced to a more efficient design in the interest of

Office Patience is no virtue



She's patiently typing the same sales letter 100 times each day . . . when once would have been enough.



He's patiently posting from separate reports . . . when the job could be done in minutes—instead of hours.



She's patiently waiting 25 minutes for photo-copies of file cards and records . . . when copies could be ready in 25 seconds.

Amazing new machine eliminates repetition in typing, writing, accounting. Gives you reproductions in 25 seconds.

Type your sales letter once on ordinary translucent paper... then make the desired number of Ozalid black-line prints in the new Ozalid Streamliner.

Add headings, personalized references . . . and you have letters which look exactly like 100% typing.

Time? 25 seconds for each Ozalid print! Cost? Less than 1½ cents per copy!

Every accountant has hoped for this— Now, figures from different reports (whole columns, if you wish) can be transferred to another report—positioned side by side, any way you like—without lifting a pen, without one error in transcription.

How? In minutes instead of hours—by keeping records on ordinary translucent ledger paper . . . making Ozalid strip-film prints of sections you wish to isolate. By simply placing these self-pasting, transparent prints on another sheet of translucent paper, which you use to produce the desired number of copies.

The only immediate reproduction service.

You're up-to-date as never before when you keep your file cards, records, continuing reports on *ordinary* translucent card stock.

You add data periodically with typewriter, pen or pencil . . . make Ozalid prints in 25 seconds whenever needed. You completely eliminate repetition, manual transcription, waiting for prints.

You save time, labor, and dollars on every job with your Ozalid Streamliner... reproducing your typed, drawn, printed work—not from stencils—but from ordinary translucent paper. Not in a darkroom—but right in your own office.

And another surprise—you can even duplicate your photographs—make as many copies as you wish—direct from a film positive, which can be made from any negative.



Write today for this *free* illustrated booklet. 24 pages of dollar-saving techniques for every job in your office.



- Samples of 10 different types of Ozalid prints you can make from any original —prints in blue, black, red, sepia colors . . . on paper, cloth, film, plastic.
- · How to eliminate multiple posting.
- How to make prints up to 42 inches wide, any length.
- How to prepare posters, displays in full-color without printing plates or engravings.
- · Simplified business techniques.

- At last—freedom from stencils and inks.
- Short cuts for your office, art department, drafting room.
- How to duplicate photographs in seconds.
- Uses in schools, colleges, personnel departments.
- How to make stain-proof copies of testimonial letters, sales-kit samples, etc.
- Ideas for Systems Men.

OZALID DIVISION OF
General Aniline & Film Corporation
Johnson City, New York
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James F. Lincoln, president of The Lincoln Electric Company, states the same principle in a little different way. "Every man has within himself latent abilities, the extent of which he rarely realizes unless some crisis or special need of his greater powers forces him to greater effort." In a recent article in The Reader's Digest Mr. Lincoln says, "Our idea, briefly, is to develop the worker by crisis and incentive. The crisis may be, for example, a job which seems over the head of a man, but to which the man climbs by his own efforts. The incentive that is most insistent in all people is the development of selfrespect and the respect of others. Earnings that are the reward for outstanding performance foster such respect; so does progress in a worker's position and responsibility. He wants to feel he is a part of a team, that his efforts are necessary, his skill unique." Mr. Lincoln's philosophies of incentive management are not the vapid dreams of a theorist. They have been proven in the company of which he is president. Results have been phenomenal and almost unbelievable.

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EMPLOYMENT

(Continued from page 19)

previewing America's favorite argument of the 1950's.

In the great debate over "full" employment, professional students tend to place major emphasis upon peculiar properties of our economic system which carry direct and vital implications for policy in this field. Among such properties at least six merit separate mention:

1. The limited degree of mobility of men and machines among different industries and geographic areas (called "specificity of resources") and the limited substitutability among men, machines, and raw materials within given plants and industries (called "complementariness").

Widespread and powerful labor monopolies.

3. The dominance of oligopolies or control by a few concerns in many of our basic raw material, capital goods, and durable consumers' goods industries.

4. The increasing popularity of devices seeking to maintain relative constancy of "real" spendable income in face of price changes. The efforts of labor unions (with approval even from powerful business organizations) to link wage rate adjustments to varia-



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tions in living costs, and the parity concept for farm products, are the major illustrations to date; but the air is hazy with other candidates—deflation of personal incomes by some price index for income tax purposes, adjustment of depreciation allowances for changes in replacement costs in computing taxable corporate net income, and provision of stable purchasing power bonds for government-security holders, to give a few examples.

5. A highly elastic credit system, permitting (and indeed encouraging) rapid expansion or contraction of the effective circulating medium as activity advances or recedes (currency and bank deposits times their rates of turnover).

6. A tendency of progressive buyers' psychology to reinforce price trends once they have manifested themselves (called "increasing elasticity of price expectations")—a state of mind arising in large part from previous experience with cumulative price movements.

Governmental Intervention?

It is not too much to say that at the outset most economists, whether supporting or opposing guarantees of full employment, were agreed that due to the interplay of these properties, its achievement and maintenance at stable prices would require elaborate governmental intervention and straitjacketing controls over prices, production, and distribution. More recently, however, a growing number of liberal economists have come to hold that this need not be the case if the design and execution of policy is sufficiently ingenious. Some (for example, A. P. Lerner and John H. G. Pierson) are so optimistic on prospects as to urge formal guarantees, or underwriting, believing that a public commitment would operate to make the job even easier. Others (notably Alvin Hansen) tend to softpedal explicit guarantees, but seem nonetheless to have few qualms about a full-scale program itself-that is to say, they are not noticeably reluctant to underwrite in practice.

This is a momentous hurdle—this question of whether or not we can make good a guarantee of full employment without elaborate controls. If we shy at it, as through a philosophy of "dealing with problems as they arise," we are signing a blank check on our



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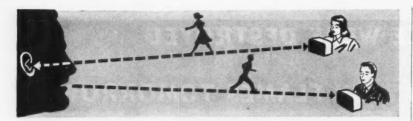
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store of liberties. If we take it boldly, the jump may definitely land us on Hayek's otherwise over-vivid "Road to Serfdom.'

At any rate there is an issue as to whether underwriters, those advocating the guarantee of full employment, fail to give proper weight to considerations which have led their fellow-professionals to an opposite conclusion. The main purpose of these articles is to sketch briefly the reasoning behind this challenge. Save perhaps in placement of emphasis, the argument presented here contains nothing new2; but lack of novelty hardly diminishes its force-indeed some evidence will be offered to show that it may be more cogent now than it would have been in, say, the 1920's.

One further consideration. It should facilitate discussion to define more closely the essential point at issue. Recall that the liberals' prime objective is "full" employment sans price inflation or deflation with their harmful and perhaps self-defeating reactions upon activity itself. So it seems to be agreed at the outset that avoidance of cumulative inflation is a "must."

Burden of Proof

It is one of those tests that seems so eminently fair and actually lays a rather cruel burden of proof on the advocates of guaranteed full employment. At bottom it entails an assumption that production can rise without any important pressure on prices until activity approaches "capacity" levels. Such a condition cannot in fairness be taken to mean that wage rates or physi-

¹ In justice to some of the analysts who are quoted in this article, a word of apology is necessary for occasional paraphrasing out of context. For clarity on particular points the arguments are sometimes presented as those of joints the arguments are sometimes presented as those of forthright antagonists, namely, advocate and critic. Actually, there are not so many direct collisions as this kind of treatment suggests. A more frequent occurrence is that independent and complete philosophies carom off each other at critical points. Within a circle around those points there is disagreement as to how our economic system would behave in certain specific circumstances. But disagreement on particular points does not always sequire or portend a disagreement on final policy. Sometimes it does, But in other cases, the writers concerned may move around these rough spots in different ways only to converge again subsequently.

sequently.

Such terms as "critics," "adversaries," and so on, when used in citing objections to certain assumptions of full em-

used in citing objections to certain assumptions of full employment guarantors, therefore, are often used merely for brevity and may be valid only for the point immediately under discussion. It is the substance of the "critics" objections at those points that matters to the reader, as he is personally free to attach thereto as much importance as he chooses for further reasoning.

2 See especially the analyses of N. Kaldor, "Stability and Full Employment," Economic Journal, XI.VIII (December 1938) pp. 642-657; D. H. Robertson, "The Trade Cycle—An Academic View," Lloyds Bank Review, April 1937. pp. 1-10; and H. Neisser, "Realism and Speculation in Employment Programs," International Post-war Problems, II (October 1945) pp. 517-534, especially \$10-527. Robertson (October 1945) pp. 517-523, especially 510-527. Robertson has given a general account of his position in the latter par (pp. 10-10) of his article, "A Survey of Modern Monetary Controversy," The Manchester School, IX (April 1938).

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cal returns must remain absolutely constant as output and employment change; but it will require at least that such variations as occur will be (or by proper management can be made to be) so slight as not to engender cumulative pressures short of the "critical" point of employment. Only if this is the case will the underwriters have sufficient leeway to cope with underemployment and underutilization without setting afoot a strong inflationary movement.

The task of the opposition, therefore, is to demonstrate that in all likelihood the basic condition cannot be met in a system which, like ours, has the attributes set forth above. For the present purpose, their argument is meant to hold even when "proper management" is possible—namely, when the authorities have a reasonably free hand to resort to whatever *indirect* manipulation of demand they deem desirable. Such latitude may be strenuously opposed on its own merits, but the point to be debated is whether they could succeed even if they had it.

The discussion assumes throughout, therefore, that it is politically possible to pursue both a banking policy which precludes a check to their plans via credit-restriction, and a fiscal policy which both (1) allows wide variation in total money expenditures and in addition (2) permits "spot" spending on a large scale. Now to turn to the analysis itself.

The Analysis

It is most convenient to begin with the situation obtaining at the bottom of a depression-all-round unemployment of equipment and labor, substantial monetary hoards, plentiful stocks of raw materials. In such circumstances, of course, the underwriters' model fits like a glove. Any sharp impulse to demand (whether from private or public action) will serve to set activity on an upward course. The initial spending will exert "multiplier" effects-namely, money spent on consumer goods will lead to further spending on consumer goods. Credit expansion and activation of idle balances will provide the monetary fuel necessary to support the growing volume of income payments and transactions. Stimulated by fresh consumer expenditures, the demand for



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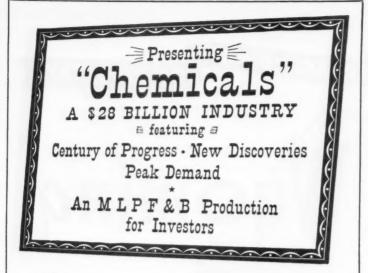
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investment goods will also rise, contributing indirectly to a further growth in consumers' incomes and expenditures. And due to redundant capacity in all fields in the early stages of recovery, real output and employment will tend to increase proportionately with money outlays. The movement, in short, will exhibit steadily growing employment at stable prices.

Resulting Problems

For how long can this process continue? Perhaps it is not possible to generalize in a "free" world since much will depend upon the specific conditions which gave rise to the initial pressure. But under our postulates, whatever the nature of the stimulus, recovery should be uninhibited at least as long as labor reserves remain ample in most fields. It may be true that problems will arise "somewhere halfway through the cyclical upswing"3 due to a shortage of first-line equipment in some consumers' goods industries. (The emergence of such scarcities at this point or even earlier seems probable since (1) unemployment of resources in these fields will have been much less than in the capital goods area during the preceding period of low activity, and (2) in such a period plant and equipment deteriorate in a way in which labor does not.)

But despite the difficulty of varying

But despite the difficulty of varying

3 The quotation is from F. A. van Hayek, "Profits, Interest and Investment" (Routledge, London, 1930), p. 11. Hayek and his fellow Neo-Austrians lay major stress upon this development (with or without accompanying labor stringencies in the same fields), their argument being that in a world like ours its appearance will engender a shift to less capitalistic methods of production (for example, labor) which must always lead to a slump in the demand for capital goods and (through this channel) a general collapse. (See Hayek, ap. cit., pp. 12-56, and L. M. Lachmann, "A Reconsideration of the Austrian Theory of Industrial Fluctuations," Economica, N. S. VII (May 1940), pp. 179-166. As Hayek puts it (op. cit., p. 56): "Once the cumulative process has been entered upon the end must always come through a rise in profits in the late stages (the consumers' goods industries—E. B. G.) and can never come through a fall in profits or an exhaustion of investment opportunities."

Despite the publicity which has recently been given to this argument over here (see Hayek, "Full Employment Illusions," Commercial and Financial Chronicle, July 14, 1946), I will not deal with it explicitly in this space. The reason is that elaborate and telling criticisms of it have already been made by Kaldor and others. Space considerations preclude consideration of their analyses at this point, but interested persons may find a thorough discussion of the pros and cons in the following sources: H. Townshend, review of "Profits, Interest and Investment," Economica, New York, 1942); Hayek, "The Ricardo Effect," Economica, N. S. IX (May 1942), pp. 350-382; and Lachmann's review of "Wilson's Fluctuations in Income and Employment," Economica, N. S. IX (November 1942), pp. 350-382; and Lachmann's review of "Wilson's Fluctuations in Income and Employment," Economica, N. S. IX (November 1942), pp. 350-382; and Lachmann's review of "Wilson's Fluctuations in Income and Employment," Economica, N. S. IX (November 1942), pp

nomical, N. S. LK (November 10421, pp. 395-390.

It is perhaps unnecessary to state that adverse judgment on the basic Neo-Austrian analysis does not exclude agreement with many incidental points made by its adherents. For example, the first four sections of Havek's article on "Full Employment Illusions" are very persuasive. But (as his own statements recognize implicitly) the views which he presents there are company to a large number of source. he presents there are common to a large number of economists and bear no necessary relationship to his distinctive

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the proportions of machines and men in modern industry in the short run, the resulting problems are unlikely to be serious. The relative abundance of labor and (in administered markets at least, that is, where prices are determined by producers) the lag in response of prices to demand and cost influences will operate to minimize the possibility of an immediate cost-price or price-cost spiral. The still ample capacity in the machinery and constructional industries (at this middle stage of recovery) will permit consumers' goods industries to acquire additional plant and equipment (and thus keep down their own costs and prices) in the longer run. By hypothesis the authorities have means at their disposal not only to keep the money supply "loose" in general, but to raise spendable income in relation to income received (namely, through tax reduction). It will be possible through these means to neutralize the unfavorable impact on demand and output which would result from failure (regarded by some Keynesians as likely) of planned investment to keep pace with planned savings as real income rises. Save in exceptional circumstances, therefore, the odds are that the initial bottlenecks may be broken without a cumulative price increase.

Change with Expansion

The picture changes markedly, however, as the expansion brings one or more major industries close to the point of "full" employment of their *labor* pools. Unless (what is most improbable) the flow of new demand happens to mesh perfectly with the inter-industrial and inter-geographic distribution of plant and labor, this condition is almost certain to arise while over-all unemployment remains substantial and many other industries are working well below capacity.

Grave problems are seen by many analysts to arise immediately. On the one hand, machine specialization will combine with union and legal overtime provisions to choke off further growth in output with the available labor force save at sharply rising cost. And on the other hand, owing to lack of mobility (both real and artificial), it is very difficult to expand this labor force. In such circumstances, further efforts to maintain or increase aggregate spend-

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ing will rapidly lose their effectiveness in raising employment and output, acting instead to set in motion the following train of developments; rising prices and (via union pressure) basic wage rates in the prosperous areas, spreading of the resultant wage increases to other organized fields even where unemployment remains substantial, and emergence of the threat of "bottleneck" inflation going hand in hand with contraction of output due to declining profit margins in the less favored spheres. Sufficient general spending might overcome the last difficulty, but at the cost of accentuating the others. The basic and very grave risk, in other words, is hyper-inflation.

In the second part of this analysis of the full employment concept, Mr. George discusses public policies necessary to achieve a full employment goal. The second part will appear in the November number; the third, and last, in December.

BUSINESS AID

(Continued from page 13)

businesses should have the right to carry forward losses from business operations to apply against subsequent earnings for a period of six years.

2. The tax burden should be equalized by permitting taxpayers to average their income tax over a period of years (say five) to reduce present discrimination against those with irregular incomes.

3. Greater latitude should be given both corporate and non-corporate business in making annual allowances for depreciation.

4. Double taxation of corporate income should be eliminated, not only as a matter of fairness but also to stimulate the flow of funds into equity investment. The present discrimination against corporate profits is a serious deterrent to precisely the kind of financing that is most needed by small business—equity financing from internal or external sources.

To provide little business men with competitive opportunities, it is recommended that the existing Federal legislation relating to competition and business practices—the Sherman Anti-Trust

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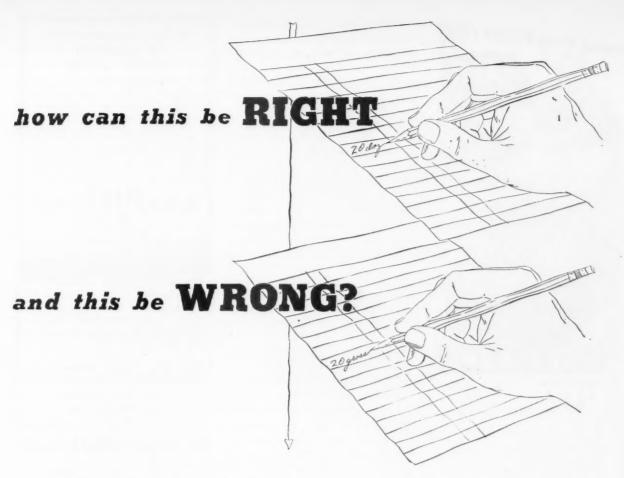
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Act, Miller-Tydings Amendment, Clayton Act, Federal Trade Commission Act, Robinson-Patman Act, and so on—be re-examined and recast into a consistent body of legislation that clarifies objectives and represents the application of reasonable principles and methods to further these objectives.

It is further recommended that efforts be made to break down interstate trade barriers; that collusive arrangements between competing business firms or between business firms and labor unions which limit competition or shut out new production be eliminated; that price considerations and allowances to large buyers be exposed to the test of whether they are employed to freeze out small buyers; that big business avoid exclusive franchise, tie-in sales, and other monopolistic practices which, in many cases, are clearly unfair to small business.

It should be apparent from this brief resumé of the findings of the Research and Policy Committee that CED's goal is equality of opportunity for every type and size of business. Such equality of opportunity is vital in preserving a healthy, growing, and productive system of business enterprise, and, by the same token, the well-being of this country.

BRITAIN, 1947

(Continued from page 16)

given preliminary indications of some directions in which cuts will be made. A greater proportion than ever of our manpower and materials will have to be devoted to increasing our exports. The home buyer of both capital and consumption goods will have to wait for the satisfaction of his needs, and probably his surplus purchasing power will have to be drained off in some form of increased taxation or deferred credits.

One thing emerges clearly, and that is that Britain's interest is to see an evergrowing volume of international trade. Consider the figures. America is now the producer of half the world's goods. Britain produces 9 or 10 per cent. Yet to balance her external position, Britain would need to sell abroad something like 30 per cent of all her output of

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CARDMASTER COMPANY 4546 Ravenswood Dept. 1210 Chicago 40, III. manufactured goods, based upon the 1938 level, and double her proportion of international trade. To compete with the rest of the world for so large a share of the cake would indeed be a formidable task. A more reasonable share of a much larger cake must represent the solution we should seek.

It is for this reason that we have looked with such great interest to the Geneva meetings of the International Trade Organization. If we can see emerging from those complex and difficult negotiations a recognition by the great creditor nations of the logic of their own positions, we should all be entitled to look forward with lighter hearts to the future. The repercussions of Geneva will be felt everywhere, and future trade generally will depend very much upon the outcome. Let us hope the world will be reasonable both in this matter, and in its determination to preserve peace.

Dependence on Western World

Europe—and Britain is part of Europe—is however faced with a problem that conditions all its economic thinking. It is dependent as never before on the Western Hemisphere, but in spite of the generous help it has had, finds itself with quite insufficient resources for minimum needs. Dollar shortage is in effect an international problem.

The continued expansion of United States exports and the failure of United States imports to follow suit seems likely to upset the U. S. Department of Commerce estimates for the international balance of payments account for

As recently as February last, it seemed that the excess of United States exports of goods and services during the present year would amount to about \$7 billion. All but about \$1.5 billion was likely to be covered by drawing on outstanding dollar credits and by gifts. Instead, the excess of United States exports of goods and services during the first half of the vear has been running at an annual rate of about \$12 billion. This means that the countries of the world are incurring a deficit of \$1 billion a month in their international transactions with the United States, with the consequence that foreign countries are now being required to draw on their rapidly dwindling gold and dollar balances at a rate



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of about \$5 billion a year to meet this deficit over and above dollar credits afforded by the United States.

It is evident from these facts that currently available methods of financing such a huge export surplus are nearly used up. If in 1948 there is to be a similar excess of United States exports over imports, it is clear that vigorous new methods will be necessary to permit the excess to be financed. Otherwise a world dollar crisis will develop which may well overwhelm the greater part of the world, and nullify the attempts being made at Geneva and elsewhere to lay the foundations for an era of freer and expanding world trade. Until it is solved, no one dare prophesy the direction which either Britain or any other country of Western Europe will be able to follow.

Mr. Marshall's recent move shows that American leaders recognize these facts, and Britain has shown how ready she is to respond to his lead for a new attack upon this desperately urgent problem. Until it is solved, we can look forward in Britain to semi-starvation, and the United States can look forward to heavy unemployment.

Conditions at Home

I return for my final remarks to the home front. We are all apt to measure our position too much in economic terms, and to pay too little regard to human reactions and responses. Educational standards have not advanced to the point where there is any general understanding of the complexities of international trade. The very jargon itself is enough to discourage the inquiring mind. No, we shall not stir the imagination of the people by talking of Bretton Woods, of the balance of overseas payments, of the American line of credit, or of multilateral trade.

It is rather from the challenge of conditions at home, by the realization that there is something to go for, that something difficult and worthwhile has to be achieved, that we shall see pride taken in achieving it. It is the response of human beings to their situation, their opportunities, and their leaders that can turn defeats into victories, whether the milieu be military or economic. We are not down and out, nor even so near it as we were in 1940. We are the same country, the same people. But when



Jones: But this is quite a surprise, girls. Whatever in the world . . . ?

Gloria: Because we're positively thrilled with our new desks and chairs. And you get the credit!

Lib: But definitely! Real, rich-looking wood furniture like the boss's. No "caste system" for our office, ch Jonesy?

Jones: Ahem! Now girls . . .

Gloria: No kidding. We're tickled pink with the new equipment. Now that's what I call "employee relations."

Lib: The office really looks modern. And wood is nice to work with. Now I will get those cost reports out for you on time, I promise!

Jones: I'll believe that when I see them!

Gloria: But, gee, Jonesy, we were kind of surprised. Because you have been yelling about how expenses were going up on everything.

Jones: Don't think this new furniture is extravagance. Why, my dears, we bought those old desks you girls were using 20 years ago. They've done double duty. Wood lasts for years!

Lib: But that lovely, rich-looking walnut.

Jones: Wood office furniture isn't a bit more expensive. And the boss is as pleased with the way the place looks as you are.

Gloria: You should get an orchid from the "Board", too.

Jones: But what will I do even with this one?

Lib.: Give it to Mrs. J. Haven't you heard about good wife-relations, too?

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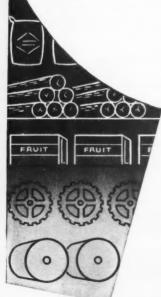


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290 BROADWAY

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... Your Unseen Friend



₩ 1947, T.I.N



STOCKHOLDERS IN OTHER BUSINESS HAVE A STAKE ALSO IN RAILROADS

Stockholders of all kinds of business should be interested in fair treatment for railroad stockholders.

Freight rates are too low to meet the mounting costs of railroad operation and allow railroad stockholders a fair return on their investments. If railroad stockholders are squeezed out—railroad operation would fall on the Government. Under Government operation, taxes to support the railroads would fall principally upon other corporations—owned, in turn, by their stockholders.

In other words, stockholders everywhere would be penalized.

Railroads should be treated equitably and given increased freight rates to meet increased costs and allow railroad stockholders a fair return.

The cost of materials and supplies necessary to railroad operation has in-The cost of materials and supplies necessary to railroad operation has increased 87% since 1939; wages and wage taxes are up about 70%. Freight rate increases have produced only 15% additional revenue for hauling the average ton of freight one mile. An increase in freight rates is needed. In the interest of everyone—employes included—freight rates should be adjusted promptly to the higher costs of performing transportation.

What the railroads desire is just and reasonable rates, that in meeting their responsibility to the public in furnishing adequate and efficient transportation service at the lowest cost consistent, they be allowed to earn sufficient revenues to enable the railroads, under honest and economical and efficient management, to provide the public with the service it desires.

NOTE THE CHART-While the stockholders' share of Pennsylvania Railroad income has declined, those who sell us our supplies have received a bigger and bigger share.



\$163,770,671

1946

Materials and Supplies

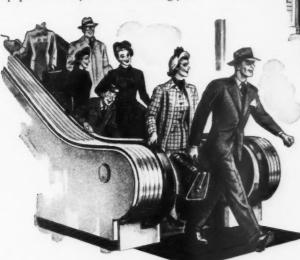
\$92,085,937

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD

Skylines... by Otto

In San Francisco, for example, there are 3,394 Otis elevators — more than all other makes combined. High-spot of this beautiful city is the famed "Top-of-the-Mark" Lounge, atop the Mark Hopkins Hotel (upper left). Two of the hotel's high-speed Otis elevators are reserved for express travel to the Lounge.

64-DINER QUESTION. Ever hear of a banquet in an elevator? Among the world's largest, the freight elevators in the Port of Authority Building in New York have a floor area of 17 by 34 feet — large enough to comfortably seat the 64 diners who held a banquet in one of them. These elevators can handle fully-loaded 10-ton trucks weighing up to 40,000 pounds at a speed of 200 feet per minute, and are just one more example of Otis' ability to build the right equipment for any materials-handling job.



HOW MANY MPH? In Escalators it's not "miles per hour" but men and women per hour that counts. Did you know, for example, that one Escalator can carry 8,000 persons in an hour — the equivalent of the entire population of Cleveland, in a week? Yes the 2,000 Otis Escalators now in service are doing a major transportation job — in retail stores, railroad stations, banks, and other public buildings.

on the Level. Do you know a modern high-speed elevator automatically stops level at every floor? This Otis development, known as Micro Self-Leveling, continuously maintains the relation between the car and the elevator landings, automatically bringing the car to a fast, yet smooth stop. At each landing it corrects for over-travel or undertravel, irrespective of varying loads or direction of travel. Elimination of "car jockeying" adds to passenger comfort and saves a lot of time.

Have you a vertical transportation problem—in an office building, a factory, an apartment house, a store? If so, there is an Otis man in your city who will be glad to give you the benefit of our 94 years' experience.



ELEVATOR COMPANY

Offices in all principal cities



Exploring for Business

Brazil, one of our great and progressive neighbors to the south, early realized the value of its "air arm" not only in national defense but for the purpose of exploring and developing the unlimited natural resources of its hinterland. Beechcraft twinengined 18's daily fly between Brazil's small jungle airstrips with mail, men and materials—handling as easily as on any metropolitan airport.

Like Brazil, governments and corporations throughout the world are selecting the Beechcraft 18 for their transportation needs because of its record of reliability, speed and cruising range. As an executive transport, accommodating up to nine people in splendid comfort, it can save many days of travel time—and much fatigue. Its readiness to go anywhere, any time, gives executives and personnel the dollars-and-cents advantage of meeting sales and production problems quickly, and it also creates the extra time needed to do the job well!

Your Beechcraft distributor is ready at any time to help you appraise your company's air transportation needs. Call on him.



Beech Aircraft

